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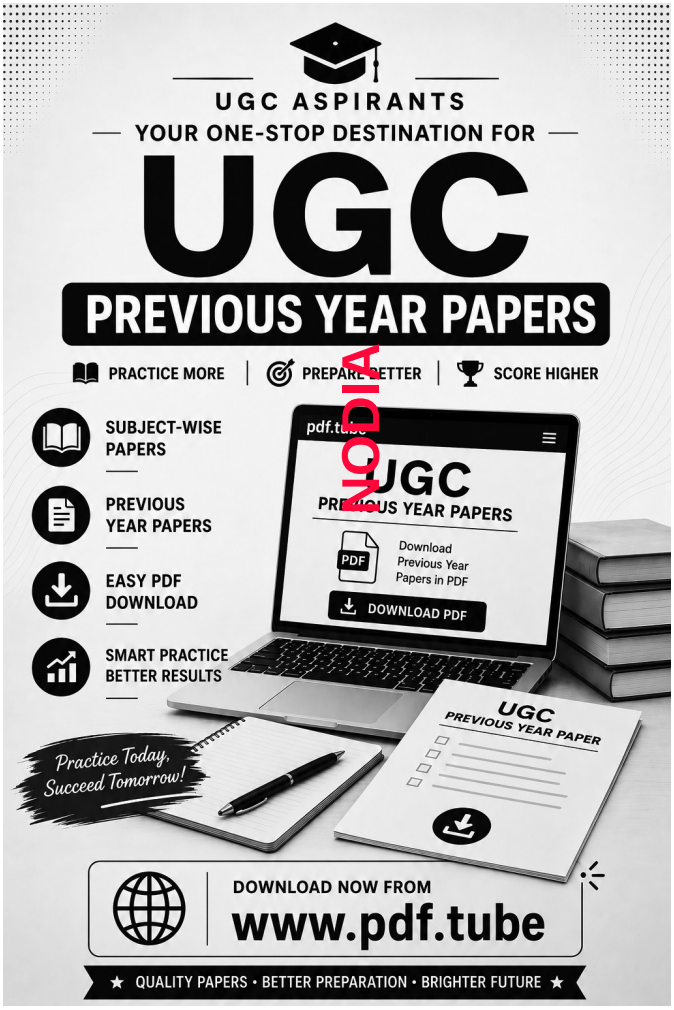

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SYLLABUS

Unit I

International and Area Studies: Concepts, Theories and Approaches

- Major concepts, scope and nature of International Relations and Area Studies
- Theories: Realist, Liberal, Marxist and Critical Theories of IR and Area Studies
- Approaches: Western and Non-Western
- Power Politics: Balance of Power, Geopolitics, Bipolarity, Unipolarity, Multipolarity and Polycentrism
- State and Non-State Actors in IR and Area Studies

Unit II

Evolution of International Relations and Area Studies

- Emergence of nation states and nationalism
- Pre-World War I International System
- Inter-War Period
- Post-World War II Period (Cold War)
- Decolonisation, Global South and International Politics
- Post-Cold War International Relations
- Impact of Globalisation

Unit III

Contemporary World Order

- Changing Patterns of World Order: Unipolarity, Bipolarity, Multipolarity and Polycentrism
- Role of Major Powers: US, Russia, China, Japan, India and EU
- Globality, Globalism and Globalisation
- Democratisation and the World Order
- Science, Technology and Global Order

Unit IV

Conflict, Security and Peace: National and International

- Concepts, components and models of National and International Security
- Evolution of Strategic Thoughts: Kautilya, Sun Tzu, Machiavelli, Antonio Jomini, Carl von Clausewitz, H. Mackinder, A.T. Mahan, G. Douhet, William Mitchell, Alexander de Seversky, H. Kissinger
- Evolution of Strategic Doctrines: Massive Retaliation, Deterrence, Flexible Response, Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD), Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), NMD
- Evolution of India's Security Policies and Nuclear and Maritime Doctrines
- New Modes of Warfare: Conventional, Low Intensity Conflicts, Information and Communication warfare, Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Warfare, Revolution in Military Affairs
- Non-Traditional Security Threats: Food and Health Security, Energy Security, Environmental Security, Gender Security, Human Security, Cyber Security and Terrorism
- Conflict Resolution and Peace, Arms Control and Disarmament.

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Unit V

International Organisations and Global Governance

- Role of International Organisations in International Peace and Security, Development cooperation and Democratisation
- United Nations: Role, Relevance, and Reforms
- Global Governance: Issues and Challenges of global commons
- Regional and Sub-regional Organisations
- Impact of Globalisation.
- International Law as an instrument of global governance

Unit VI

India's Foreign Policy

- Evolution of Objectives and Principles of India's Foreign Policy
- India's Relations with Neighbourhood and Extended Neighbourhood
- India and Major Powers: US, Russia, China, Japan, and EU
- India's Look East and Act East Policy
- India's Engagement with International and Regional Organisations
- Role of India's Soft Power in its Foreign Policy

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Unit VII

South Asia and Indo-Pacific Region

- Geopolitical and Geostrategic setting
- Colonialism, nationalism and independence movements
- Nation building, state building and challenges to democratization
- Post-Independence developments: Political Regimes
- Internal and External Threats to State Security and Human Security
- Regional Territorial and Maritime Issues, Role of Extra-regional Powers.
- Regional Trade, Development Cooperation and Strategic Partnership: IORA, SAARC, ASEAN, ARF, APEC, BIMSTEC, Mekong-Ganga Cooperation etc.
- Impact of Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation (LPG)

Unit VIII

Central Asia, West Asia and Africa

- Geopolitical and Geostrategic setting
- Colonialism, nationalism and independence movements
- Nation building, state building and challenges to democratization
- Post-Independence developments: Political Regimes
- Internal and External Threats to State Security and Human Security
- Regional conflicts and issues and role of extra-regional powers
- Regional Trade, Development Cooperation and Strategic Partnership
- Impact of Globalisation

Unit IX

Europe and Erstwhile Soviet Union/Russia

- Geopolitical and Geostrategic setting
- Nationalism, Industrial Revolution and State building
- Europe between two World Wars
- Alliances and Accords in Europe: NATO, WARSAW PACT, Helsinki Accord, EU etc.
- Internal and External Threats to State Security and Human Security, Migration refugees and Ethnic Problems
- Trade, Development cooperation and Strategic Partnerships
- Role of US in Europe
- Impact of Globalisation

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Unit X

The Americas

- Geopolitical and Geostrategic setting.
- Colonialism, Nationalism and Independence Movements.
- Nation building, state building and challenges to democratization.
- Internal and External Threats to State Security and Human Security.
- Regional conflicts and Issues: Role of US and Extra-regional Powers.
- Regional trade, development cooperation and strategic partnership.
- Globalisation and its impact.

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CHAPTER 01

International and Area Studies: Concepts, Theories and Approaches

1. Who among the following scholars first coined the term 'International Relations'?
(A) Immanuel Kant
(B) Jeremy Bentham
(C) Hugo Grotius
(D) Woodrow Wilson

2. Consider the following statements regarding the scope of Area Studies:
1. It primarily relies on interdisciplinary regional research.
2. It emerged as a prominent academic field during the Cold War.
3. It entirely dismisses local language proficiency.
4. It focuses exclusively on global institutional frameworks.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 and 4 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) 3 and 4 only

3. Which of the following statements best describes the traditional nature of International Relations?
(A) It focuses on domestic policy and governance.
(B) It functions as a branch of general sociology.
(C) It centers on political interactions among states.
(D) It ignores state sovereignty and territoriality.

4. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Concept)
P. Anarchy
Q. Complex Interdependence
R. Base and Superstructure
S. Emancipation
List II: (Theory)
1. Marxism
2. Critical Theory
3. Realism
4. Liberalism
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(C) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

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5. Which of the following statements regarding Area Studies is incorrect?
(A) It requires deep contextual knowledge of a specific region.
(B) It utilizes multi-disciplinary methods including history and anthropology.
(C) It is synonymous with the universalist approach of Neorealism.
(D) It often faces criticism for being heavily influenced by Western foreign policy interests.

6. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Traditional International Relations theory has often been criticized for its methodological nationalism.
Reason (R): Methodological nationalism equates society with the nation-state, overlooking transnational actors.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

7. The concept of 'Methodological Nationalism' in International Relations refers to:
(A) The conviction that global international organizations should govern states.
(B) The rigorous process of standardizing

qualitative research across nations.
(C) The deliberate rejection of nationalist ideologies in foreign policy making.
(D) The assumption that nation-states are the natural form of modern society.

8. Consider the following statements regarding major debates in International Relations:
1. The first debate was between Utopian Liberalism and Realism.
2. The second debate focused on Traditionalism versus Behaviorism.
3. The inter-paradigm debate involved Realism, Liberalism, and Marxism.
4. The fourth debate was primarily about the economic causes of World War I.
5. The post-positivist debate questioned objective truth in IR.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
(B) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

9. Which of the following is an exception to the primary focus areas of traditional classical IR theory?
(A) Strategic maintenance of the balance of power
(B) Detailed study of diplomatic history
(C) Transnational environmental advocacy
(D) Formal analysis of military strategy

10. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: International Relations as an academic discipline formally began after World War I.
Statement II: The first university chair of International Relations was established at the University of Oxford.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

11. Which of the following best explains the surge in Area Studies funding in the United States during the mid-20th century?
(A) The promotion of global environmentalism and sustainable development.
(B) The decline of Marxist scholarship in prominent European universities.
(C) The structural economic adjustments mandated by the World Bank.
(D) The geopolitical necessities of the Cold War and intelligence gathering.

12. Arrange the following theoretical developments in IR in chronological order:
1. Emergence of Constructivism
2. The Idealist-Realist Debate
3. The Behavioral Revolution
4. The Post-Positivist Turn

Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?
(A) 2, 3, 4, 1
(B) 2, 3, 1, 4
(C) 3, 2, 4, 1
(D) 3, 2, 1, 4

13. Which of the following pairs of 'Scholar and Concept' is correctly matched?
(A) Kenneth Waltz - Democratic Peace Theory
(B) Alexander Wendt - End of History
(C) Robert Keohane - Complex Interdependence
(D) Francis Fukuyama - Structural Anarchy

14. Which of the following provides the most appropriate distinction between International Relations and Area Studies?
(A) IR focuses on domestic laws, while Area Studies focuses on international laws.
(B) IR utilizes qualitative data, while Area Studies relies on quantitative data.
(C) IR rejects state actors, while Area Studies relies solely on state institutions.
(D) IR seeks systemic generalizations, while Area Studies emphasizes regional specifics.

15. Which of the following pairs is incorrectly matched?
(A) Neorealism - Immanuel Kant
(B) Idealism - Woodrow Wilson
(C) Classical Realism - Hans Morgenthau
(D) Critical Theory - Robert Cox

16. In the context of IR theory, 'Ontology' primarily defines:
(A) The methods used to gather data.
(B) The nature of being and what constitutes the international system.

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(C) The theory of knowledge and how we know things.
(D) The ethical implications of foreign policy.

17. If a researcher applies the concept of 'Security Dilemma' to understand the localized arms build-up between India and Pakistan, they are primarily demonstrating:
(A) The adoption of a purely economic approach to regional security.
(B) The application of IR theoretical concepts to specific regional contexts.
(C) A constructivist rejection of material power in the South Asian region.
(D) The total irrelevance of traditional IR theories in the South Asian region.

18. The Woodrow Wilson Chair, established in 1919 as the first academic chair in IR, was located at which institution?
(A) Aberystwyth University (University of Wales)
(B) University of Cambridge
(C) Harvard University
(D) Princeton University

19. Identify the correct statement regarding the 'State-centric' approach in IR.
(A) It argues that multinational corporations are the primary global actors.
(B) It was developed primarily by contemporary feminist IR scholars.
(C) It views the sovereign state as the principal actor in the global system.
(D) It asserts that global civil society dictates most state behaviors.

20. The concept of 'Ontological Security' in IR refers to:
(A) A state's physical military defense and deterrence capabilities.
(B) The economic stability of a state's primary sovereign wealth fund.
(C) The physical security of international maritime trade routes.
(D) A state's need for a consistent self-identity in foreign relations.

21. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic typically associated with Area Studies?
(A) Linguistic fluency
(B) Interdisciplinary framework
(C) Universal law generation
(D) Historical contextualization

22. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Universalism in IR assumes that theoretical principles apply uniformly across all regions.
Statement II: Particularism highlights the unique cultural and historical contexts of specific regions.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

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23. What was a major effect of globalization on the discipline of Area Studies?
(A) It rendered the discipline of Area Studies entirely obsolete.
(B) It restricted Area Studies to the study of isolated villages.
(C) It merged the field of Area Studies completely into economics.
(D) It forced Area Studies to examine cross-regional linkages.

24. Which is the most appropriate definition of 'Epistemology' in the context of IR theory?
(A) The study of how we can acquire knowledge about international politics.
(B) The study of state borders.
(C) The measurement of military power.
(D) The analysis of diplomatic protocols.

25. An analysis of how the legacy of British colonial administration continues to shape the current foreign policy of an African nation is best classified as:
(A) A structural realist case study.
(B) An institutionalist economic model.
(C) A post-colonial area studies approach.
(D) A pure behavioralist quantitative study.

26. Who is widely considered the father of Neorealism (Structural Realism)?
(A) Kenneth Waltz
(B) E.H. Carr
(C) Hans Morgenthau
(D) John Mearsheimer

27. Consider the following statements regarding Classical Realism:
1. It believes human nature is inherently flawed and self-interested.
2. It asserts that states are the primary actors in international politics.
3. It argues that power is merely an illusion created by institutions.
4. It views international politics as a continuous struggle for power.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 3 only
(B) 2, 3 and 4 only
(C) 1, 3 and 4 only
(D) 1, 2 and 4 only

28. Identify the correct statement differentiating Offensive and Defensive Realism.
(A) Defensive realism seeks hegemony, while offensive realism seeks security.
(B) Offensive realism maximizes power, while defensive realism maximizes security.
(C) Both theoretical frameworks reject the concept of systemic anarchy.
(D) Defensive realism was developed primarily by John Mearsheimer.

29. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Scholar)
P. E.H. Carr
Q. Hans Morgenthau
R. Kenneth Waltz
S. John Mearsheimer
List II: (Book)
1. Theory of International Politics
2. The Tragedy of Great Power Politics
3. The Twenty Years' Crisis
4. Politics Among Nations
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

30. Which of the following statements about Neoclassical Realism is incorrect?
(A) It combines systemic variables with domestic level variables.
(B) It argues that systemic pressures are filtered through institutions.
(C) Gideon Rose is closely associated with coining the term.
(D) It ignores the role of state leaders and their perceptions.

31. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Realists argue that international cooperation is difficult to achieve and sustain.
Reason (R): The international system is anarchic, compelling states to operate in a self-help system.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

32. The 'Security Dilemma' refers to a situation where:
(A) International organizations fail to provide global economic security.
(B) A state's security measures cause others to feel less secure.
(C) A state cannot decide whether to join an alliance or remain neutral.
(D) Democratic states refuse to go to war with other democratic states.

33. Consider the following assumptions of Structural Realism:
1. The international system is anarchic.
2. States inherently possess some offensive military capability.
3. States can never be certain about other states' intentions.
4. Survival is the primary goal of great powers.
5. States are highly irrational actors.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

34. Which of the following is an exception to Hans Morgenthau's Six Principles of Political Realism?
(A) Politics is governed by laws rooted in human nature.
(B) National interest is defined primarily in terms of power.

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(C) Political action must be judged by political consequences.
(D) Moral principles must be integrated into foreign policy.

35. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Realists emphasize absolute gains over relative gains.
Statement II: Relative gains focus on how much a state gains in comparison to other states.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

36. According to Kenneth Waltz, why is a bipolar system more stable than a multipolar system?
(A) Because international institutions enforce global peace.
(B) Because two great powers can easily manage the balance.
(C) Because both powers will inevitably adopt democratic norms.
(D) Because bipolar systems successfully eliminate nuclear weapons.

37. Arrange the publication of the following Realist works in chronological order:
1. The Tragedy of Great Power Politics (Mearsheimer)
2. Politics Among Nations (Morgenthau)
3. The Twenty Years' Crisis (Carr)
4. Theory of International Politics (Waltz)

Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?
(A) 3, 2, 4, 1
(B) 2, 3, 4, 1
(C) 3, 4, 2, 1
(D) 4, 3, 2, 1

38. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched?
(A) John Mearsheimer - Defensive Realism
(B) Kenneth Waltz - Offensive Realism
(C) Hans Morgenthau - Classical Realism
(D) Fareed Zakaria - Structural Realism

39. What is the most appropriate description of a state's core motive in Offensive Realism?
(A) To maintain the existing global status quo.
(B) To maximize power and achieve regional hegemony.
(C) To promote international law and global regimes.
(D) To build complex economic interdependence.

40. Which of the following pairs is incorrectly matched?
(A) Self-help - Depending on international institutions for survival.
(B) Bandwagoning - Aligning with the stronger threat.
(C) Balancing - Aligning against the stronger threat.
(D) Buck-passing - Relying on another state to deter a threat.

41. In Neorealism, 'Anarchy' is specifically defined as:
(A) A state of complete chaos and constant war.
(B) The lack of a central authority above states.
(C) The breakdown of domestic law and order.
(D) The failure of international economic markets.

42. A scenario where State A acquires missile defense systems purely for protection, but State B interprets this as an offensive move and increases its own arsenal, is an application of:
(A) Democratic Peace Theory
(B) Dependency Theory
(C) Security Dilemma
(D) World-Systems Theory

43. Who is the author of 'The Tragedy of Great Power Politics'?
(A) Kenneth Waltz
(B) Hans Morgenthau
(C) John Mearsheimer
(D) Stephen Walt

44. Identify the correct statement regarding the 'Thucydides Trap'.
(A) It describes the inevitable peace following a major war.
(B) It refers to risks when a rising power threatens a ruling power.
(C) It was a diplomatic strategy used by the League of Nations.
(D) It explains the failure of international economic sanctions.

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45. The concept of a weaker state aligning itself with a rising or dominant power rather than balancing against it is known as:
(A) Bandwagoning
(B) Buck-passing
(C) Chain-ganging
(D) Offshore balancing

46. Which of the following is NOT a core assumption of Realist theories?
(A) The state is the most important actor.
(B) The state acts as a rational, unitary actor.
(C) Institutions have autonomous power over states.
(D) National security and survival are top priorities.

47. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Classical Realism roots the causes of war in the flawed, power-seeking nature of human beings.
Statement II: Structural Realism attributes the causes of war to the anarchic structure of the international system.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

48. What is the predicted effect of 'Hegemonic Decline' according to Realist Power Transition Theory?
(A) A permanent era of peace through institutions.
(B) A high probability of war as challengers contest order.
(C) The dissolution of all existing nation-states.
(D) The immediate creation of a world government.

49. Which of the following best represents the Realist view on international organizations (IOs)?
(A) IOs are independent actors that alter state behavior.
(B) IOs are tools reflecting the distribution of power.
(C) IOs will eventually replace the modern nation-state.
(D) IOs have no existence in the modern world.

50. The assertion "The strong do what they can and the weak suffer what they must" from the Melian Dialogue illustrates the core tenets of:
(A) Constructivism
(B) Liberalism
(C) Classical Realism
(D) Marxism

51. Which philosopher is widely credited with the foundational ideas behind Democratic Peace Theory?
(A) Thomas Hobbes
(B) John Locke
(C) Immanuel Kant
(D) Karl Marx

52. Consider the following statements regarding Liberal Institutionalism:
1. It acknowledges that the international system is anarchic.
2. It argues that institutions can mitigate the effects of anarchy.
3. It claims that states care more about absolute gains than relative gains.
4. It asserts that military power is the only effective tool of statecraft.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 3 only
(B) 1, 2 and 4 only
(C) 2, 3 and 4 only
(D) 1, 3 and 4 only

53. Identify the correct statement regarding 'Complex Interdependence'.
(A) It assumes military force is the primary policy tool.
(B) It involves multiple channels connecting societies.
(C) It was theorized by Hans Morgenthau and E.H. Carr.
(D) It argues that all state goals are subordinated to security.

54. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Scholar)
P. Immanuel Kant
Q. Robert Keohane
R. Michael Doyle
S. Norman Angell
List II: (Concept/Work)
1. Democratic Peace Theory

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2. Perpetual Peace
3. After Hegemony
4. The Great Illusion

(A) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2

55. Which of the following statements about Commercial Liberalism is incorrect?
(A) It argues that free trade promotes peace.
(B) It posits that economic interdependence increases the costs of war.
(C) It suggests that mercantilist policies are the best guarantee of peace.
(D) It is associated with thinkers like Richard Cobden.

56. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Democratic states rarely, if ever, go to war with one another.
Reason (R): Democratic states share common liberal norms and are constrained by public accountability.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

57. In Liberal theory, 'Absolute Gains' refers to:
(A) Ensuring a state gains more than its rival.
(B) A scenario where all participating states benefit.
(C) Gaining territory through conquest and expansion.
(D) The absolute control over international organizations.

58. Consider the following characteristics of Complex Interdependence:
1. Multiple channels connect societies.
2. Absence of hierarchy among issues.
3. Minor role of military force.
4. States are the sole actors.
5. Absolute dominance of the security dilemma.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3 only
(B) 1, 2, and 4 only
(C) 2, 3, and 5 only
(D) 3, 4, and 5 only

59. Which of the following is NOT a typical feature of the Liberal worldview in IR?
(A) Belief in historical progress.
(B) Emphasis on human reason.
(C) Viewing the state as a black box.
(D) Faith in international organizations.

60. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Neoliberal institutionalism agrees with neorealism that states are rational, self-interested actors operating in anarchy.
Statement II: Neoliberal institutionalism argues that international regimes can reduce transaction costs and uncertainty, enabling cooperation.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

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61. What is the primary cause-and-effect relationship proposed by Commercial Liberalism?
(A) Increased military spending causes economic collapse.
(B) High interdependence reduces military conflict likelihood.
(C) Democratic regimes cause a decrease in international trade.
(D) Cultural exchanges cause democratic transitions.

62. Arrange the following Liberal concepts in chronological order of their historical emergence:
1. Complex Interdependence
2. Kantian Perpetual Peace
3. Wilsonian Idealism (Fourteen Points)
4. Democratic Peace Theory (Modern formulation by Doyle)

Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?
(A) 2, 3, 1, 4
(B) 2, 1, 3, 4
(C) 3, 2, 4, 1
(D) 3, 4, 1, 2

63. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched?
(A) Robert Keohane - Neoliberal Institutionalism
(B) Republican Liberalism - Focuses on the role of international organizations.
(C) Institutional Liberalism - Focuses on free trade.
(D) Commercial Liberalism - Focuses on democratic governments.

64. Which of the following is the best definition of an 'International Regime'?
(A) A localized rebel movement.
(B) Convergent principles, norms, and rules in an area.
(C) An alliance formed purely for offensive military purposes.
(D) A sovereign government ruling multiple nations.

65. Which of the following pairs is incorrectly matched?
(A) E.H. Carr - Republican Liberalism
(B) Robert Keohane - Neoliberal Institutionalism
(C) Michael Doyle - Democratic Peace
(D) Richard Cobden - Commercial Liberalism

66. 'Sociological Liberalism' emphasizes that IR is not just about state-to-state relations, but also fundamentally about:
(A) The structural anarchy of the system.
(B) Transnational relations between individuals, groups, and societies.
(C) The biological drives of leaders.
(D) The distribution of material capabilities.

67. Analyzing how a free trade agreement between two hostile nations successfully reduced border skirmishes is an application of:
(A) Classical Realism
(B) Commercial Liberalism
(C) Dependency Theory
(D) Structural Marxism

68. Who authored the essay 'Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch'?
(A) G.W.F. Hegel
(B) Jean-Jacques Rousseau
(C) Immanuel Kant
(D) John Locke

69. Identify the correct statement regarding Republican Liberalism.
(A) It argues that republics are more aggressive than monarchies.
(B) It posits that democracies are more peaceful with each other.
(C) It was developed primarily during the Cold War by Neorealists.
(D) It rejects the idea of a democratic zone of peace.

70. The concept of 'Soft Power', often associated with Liberal frameworks, refers to:
(A) Coercing states through economic sanctions.
(B) Shaping preferences of others through attraction.
(C) The use of covert military operations.
(D) A state's geographical and resource advantages.

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71. Which of the following scenarios is an exception that challenges a strict interpretation of the Democratic Peace Theory?
(A) Two democracies trading freely.
(B) Two autocracies going to war.
(C) Covert interventions by democracies.
(D) A democracy forming an alliance.

72. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Liberal institutionalists recognize that cheating or non-compliance is a major barrier to international cooperation.
Statement II: They argue that international institutions can solve the cheating problem by monitoring behavior and sanctioning defectors.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

73. What is a primary effect of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) according to Liberal IR theory?
(A) They consistently trigger military conflicts.
(B) They foster global society and pressure states.
(C) They consolidate state sovereignty.
(D) They replace the United Nations.

74. According to Neoliberal Institutionalism, what is the best explanation for why states cooperate under anarchy?
(A) States are inherently altruistic.
(B) Hegemons force them to cooperate.
(C) Repeated interactions make cooperation rational.
(D) Anarchy does not actually exist.

75. The successful integration of European states into the European Union is most often cited as a triumphant case of:
(A) Offensive Realism
(B) Liberal Institutionalism
(C) World-Systems Theory
(D) Neo-Marxism

76. The Dependency Theory of International Relations originated primarily in response to the economic conditions of which region?
(A) Eastern Europe
(B) Latin America
(C) Southeast Asia
(D) Sub-Saharan Africa

77. Consider the following core ideas of World-Systems Theory:
1. The world is divided into Core, Periphery, and Semi-periphery.
2. The core exploits the periphery for raw materials and cheap labor.
3. The system is dynamic, allowing upward and downward mobility of states.
4. It argues that capitalism is beneficial for all states equally.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 3 only
(B) 1, 2 and 4 only
(C) 2, 3 and 4 only
(D) 1, 3 and 4 only

78. Identify the correct statement defining the Core-Periphery relationship in Dependency Theory.
(A) The core provides raw materials to the periphery.
(B) The periphery is trapped in underdevelopment.
(C) The core and periphery trade on fair terms.
(D) The periphery exploits the core through exports.

79. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Scholar)
P. Immanuel Wallerstein
Q. Robert Cox
R. Antonio Gramsci
S. Andre Gunder Frank
List II: (Concept/Theory)
1. Development of Underdevelopment
2. World-Systems Theory
3. Problem-solving vs Critical Theory
4. Cultural Hegemony
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

80. Which of the following statements about Gramscian Hegemony in IR is incorrect?
(A) It relies entirely on military force and physical coercion.
(B) It involves a mix of coercion and consent.
(C) It operates through institutions, civil society, and culture.
(D) It creates a 'common sense' that legitimizes the dominant order.

81. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Marxist approaches to IR argue that global capitalism inherently leads to uneven development.
Reason (R): Capitalism structurally favors the owners of capital in core countries at the expense of labor in peripheral countries.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

82. The concept of a 'Historical Bloc' in Neo-Gramscian IR theory refers to:
(A) A physical territory controlled by a superpower.
(B) An alliance of material forces and ideologies.
(C) The chronological division of history into eras.
(D) A trading bloc like the European Union.

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83. Consider the following tenets associated with the Frankfurt School of Critical Theory:
1. Rejection of scientific positivism in social sciences.
2. Focus on human emancipation from structural constraints.
3. Analysis of culture and ideology as tools of domination.
4. Commitment to maintaining the existing capitalist status quo.
5. Belief that theory is always for someone and for some purpose.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
(B) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(D) 1, 3 and 4 only

84. Which of the following is NOT a primary focus of Marxist theories of IR?
(A) Class struggle
(B) Global inequality
(C) Anarchic balance of military power
(D) Capitalist exploitation

85. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: According to Robert Cox, 'Problem-solving theory' accepts the prevailing system and seeks to make it work smoothly.
Statement II: 'Critical theory' calls the prevailing system into question and investigates how it can be changed.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

86. What is the cause-and-effect relationship detailed in Lenin's theory of Imperialism?
(A) Overaccumulation of capital causes expansion.
(B) Democratic deficits cause socialist revolutions.
(C) Religious differences cause imperialism.
(D) Anarchy causes states to build socialist economies.

87. Arrange the following Marxist and Critical frameworks in chronological order of their emergence:
1. Classical Marxism (Marx & Engels)
2. Dependency Theory
3. Theory of Imperialism (Lenin)
4. Neo-Gramscian IR Theory (Robert Cox)

Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?
(A) 1, 3, 2, 4
(B) 1, 2, 3, 4
(C) 3, 1, 4, 2
(D) 1, 3, 4, 2

88. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched?
(A) V.I. Lenin - Imperialism
(B) Karl Marx - World-Systems
(C) Wallerstein - Hegemonic Stability
(D) Robert Cox - Democratic Peace

89. Which of the following provides the best definition of the 'Semi-periphery' in World-Systems Theory?
(A) States that are entirely disconnected from the economy.
(B) States acting as a buffer in the capitalist system.
(C) States that possess nuclear weapons but no economic power.
(D) States that only produce agricultural goods.

90. Which of the following concepts is incorrectly matched with its theorist?
(A) Core and Periphery - Raul Prebisch
(B) Cultural Hegemony - Antonio Gramsci
(C) Structural Violence - Johan Galtung
(D) End of History - Immanuel Wallerstein

91. In Critical Security Studies, 'Emancipation' is defined as:
(A) The right of states to acquire nuclear weapons.
(B) The freeing of people from physical constraints.
(C) The abolition of all national borders.
(D) The privatization of state security forces.

92. Applying Dependency Theory to modern international debt crises suggests that:
(A) Developing nations are at fault for poor management.
(B) Debt is used to maintain peripheral subordination.

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(C) Debt cancellation results in global equality.
(D) Financial institutions operate on objective laws.

93. Which prominent Critical theorist famously stated, "Theory is always for someone and for some purpose"?
(A) Kenneth Waltz
(B) Robert Cox
(C) Alexander Wendt
(D) Max Horkheimer

94. Identify the correct statement regarding the 'Transnational Capitalist Class' (TCC) in Neo-Marxist theory.
(A) The TCC is loyal strictly to their home nation-state.
(B) The TCC shares interests in maintaining global capitalism.
(C) The TCC opposes free trade and globalization.
(D) The TCC is composed of industrial factory workers.

95. In Marxist IR theory, the 'Superstructure' refers to:
(A) The economic base and means of production.
(B) Institutions that legitimize the economic base.
(C) The physical infrastructure of a state.
(D) The military alliances of the Global South.

96. Which of the following is NOT a feature of Immanuel Wallerstein's World-Systems Theory?
(A) It traces the origins of the capitalist world-economy to the 16th century.
(B) It assumes the nation-state is the only valid unit of analysis.
(C) It describes an international division of labor.
(D) It involves core, periphery, and semi-periphery tiers.

97. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Constructivism focuses on how ideas, identities, and norms shape state behavior.
Statement II: Critical theory focuses heavily on emancipation and changing oppressive social structures.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

98. According to Gramscian theory, what is the effect of 'Cultural Hegemony' on the working class?
(A) It causes immediate violent uprisings.
(B) It causes acceptance of dominant ideology.
(C) It causes accumulation of vast capital.
(D) It causes the state to collapse into anarchy.

99. What is the most common Marxist critique of the 'Liberal Peace' building efforts by Western institutions?
(A) They are too heavily reliant on military force.
(B) They integrate states into the capitalist system.
(C) They promote socialism in developing countries.
(D) They ignore human rights entirely.

100. Assessing World Trade Organization (WTO) intellectual property laws as a tool that prevents developing nations from accessing affordable medicines to secure profits for Western corporations is an example of applying:
(A) Neorealism
(B) Commercial Liberalism
(C) Democratic Peace Theory
(D) Marxist/Critical Theory

101. Which scholar's work is widely considered the foundational text for Post-colonialism in IR and Area Studies?
(A) Frantz Fanon
(B) Edward Said
(C) Gayatri Spivak
(D) Homi Bhabha

102. Consider the following characteristics often attributed to Eurocentrism in IR theory:
1. It assumes Western historical experiences are universally applicable.
2. It treats the West as the primary subject and agent of history.
3. It actively incorporates indigenous non-Western philosophies into core theory.
4. It views non-Western societies merely as objects of study or passive recipients of

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norms.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

(A) 1, 2 and 4 only
(B) 1, 2 and 3 only
(C) 2, 3 and 4 only
(D) 1, 3 and 4 only

103. Identify the correct statement regarding the Chinese IR concept of 'Tianxia'.

(A) It implies a hierarchical and inclusive global order.
(B) It is a translation of Westphalian sovereignty.
(C) It advocates for absolute isolationism.
(D) It is a militaristic doctrine identical to realism.

104. Match List I with List II:

List I: (Non-Western Concept)

P. Tianxia
Q. Ubuntu
R. Mandala
S. Pachamama

List II: (Region of Origin)

1. South Asia / Southeast Asia
2. Africa
3. Andes / South America
4. China

(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(D) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3

105. Which of the following statements about 'Subaltern Studies' is incorrect?

(A) It originated in South Asian historiography.
(B) It focuses on elite state leaders and major diplomatic treaties.
(C) It seeks to uncover the voices and histories of marginalized groups.
(D) Ranajit Guha was a prominent figure in its foundation.

106. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):

Assertion (A): There has been a growing call to develop Non-Western theories of International Relations.

Reason (R): Mainstream IR theories heavily rely on the historical and political experiences of Europe and North America.

Which of the following is correct?

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

107. The concept of 'Orientalism', as defined by Edward Said, refers to:

(A) The objective and scientific study of Asian economies.
(B) A discourse constructing the East as inferior.
(C) The rapid industrialization of East Asian nations.
(D) An Eastern philosophy promoting peace.

108. Consider the following features associated with the English School of IR:

1. It conceptualizes an 'International Society' rather than just a system.
2. It blends elements of Realism, Liberalism, and Constructivism.
3. It argues that states share certain common interests and values.
4. It completely rejects the existence of state sovereignty.
5. Hedley Bull is a key figure in this school.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

(A) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
(B) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only

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109. Which of the following is NOT typically classified as a Non-Western approach or concept in IR?

(A) Post-colonialism
(B) Subaltern Studies
(C) Neoclassical Realism
(D) Dependency Theory (Latin American Structuralism)

110. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The term 'Third World' originated during the Cold War to denote countries not aligned with NATO or the Warsaw Pact.

Statement II: The term 'Global South' is primarily a geographic indicator and strictly excludes countries in the Northern Hemisphere.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

(A) Statement I only

(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

111. What was a major cause for the emergence of Post-colonial approaches in IR?
(A) Decolonization and the legacies of colonial rule.
(B) The collapse of the Soviet Union.
(C) The creation of the European Union.
(D) The rise of international terrorism.

112. Arrange the following historical events relevant to Non-Western IR in chronological order:
1. The Bandung Conference
2. The publication of Edward Said's 'Orientalism'
3. The Haitian Revolution
4. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) First Summit in Belgrade

Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?
(A) 3, 1, 4, 2
(B) 1, 3, 4, 2
(C) 3, 4, 1, 2
(D) 1, 4, 2, 3

113. Which of the following pairs of 'Concept and Originating Region' is correctly matched?
(A) Guanxi - Latin America
(B) Mandala - Southeast Asia
(C) Ubuntu - East Asia
(D) Swaraj - Middle East

114. The phrase 'Provincializing Europe' in post-colonial studies is best described as:
(A) Removing European countries from the Security Council.
(B) Decentering European experience as the universal standard.
(C) Focusing solely on European provinces in Area Studies.
(D) Promoting European culture globally.

115. Which of the following pairs is incorrectly matched?
(A) Hedley Bull - Post-colonialism
(B) Amitav Acharya - Global IR
(C) Qin Yaqing - Relational Theory of IR
(D) Navnita Chadha Behera - Non-Western IR in South Asia

116. How does the English School define an 'International Society'?
(A) A hierarchical global government with a single ruler.
(B) A group of states bound by a common set of rules.
(C) A system where states interact without shared norms.
(D) A global society of individuals without states.

117. Analyzing the diplomatic relations of ancient Indian kingdoms using concentric circles of friends and enemies is an application of:
(A) World-Systems Theory
(B) The Mandala Concept
(C) Democratic Peace Theory
(D) Neoliberal Institutionalism

118. Who is the author of the groundbreaking 1978 book 'Orientalism'?
(A) Edward Said
(B) Frantz Fanon
(C) Homi Bhabha
(D) Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak

119. Identify the correct statement regarding Dependency Theory as a Global South approach.
(A) Integration into the capitalist system benefits the South.
(B) Colonialism created structural disadvantages for the South.
(C) It was developed primarily by scholars at Oxford.
(D) It advocates for the immediate militarization of the South.

120. In the English School of IR, 'Pluralism' compared to 'Solidarism' emphasizes:
(A) Universal human rights intervention over sovereignty.
(B) The abolition of nation-states.
(C) Economic globalization over political isolation.
(D) Sovereignty as the basis for maintaining order.

121. Which of the following is NOT typically associated with the emerging 'Chinese School' of IR?
(A) Tianxia

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(B) Relationality (Guanxi)
(C) The Security Dilemma
(D) Moral Realism (Yan Xuetong)

122. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Global IR seeks to overcome Western universalism by integrating local histories and knowledge from the Global South.
Statement II: Global IR argues that Western IR theories should be entirely discarded and banned.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

123. What is a primary cause of the marginalization of indigenous knowledge in traditional IR?
(A) Indigenous knowledge is strictly qualitative.
(B) Indigenous scholars universally reject academic writing.
(C) Non-Western countries did not engage in diplomacy.
(D) Disciplinary boundaries were established by the West.

124. The 'Bandung Spirit' refers most accurately to:
(A) The aggressive military expansion of Asian states.
(B) The founding principles of the Warsaw Pact.
(C) An economic treaty between the US and Japan.
(D) The solidarity and anti-colonialism of Afro-Asian nations.

125. Studying the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) during the Cold War as a deliberate strategy by newly independent nations to carve out an autonomous diplomatic space is an example of:
(A) A Western structural realist approach.
(B) A Non-Western/Global South agency approach.
(C) A purely commercial liberal approach.
(D) A classical Marxist approach.

126. Who coined the geopolitical concept of the 'Heartland Theory'?
(A) Alfred Thayer Mahan
(B) Halford Mackinder
(C) Nicholas Spykman
(D) Friedrich Ratzel

127. Consider the following as traditional methods of maintaining a Balance of Power:
1. Alliances and counter-alliances
2. Armament and militarization
3. Interventions and buffer states
4. Unilateral nuclear disarmament
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 3 only
(B) 1, 2 and 4 only
(C) 2, 3 and 4 only
(D) 1, 3 and 4 only

128. Identify the correct statement regarding the 'Rimland Theory'.
(A) Control of the heartland is the key to global dominance.
(B) Coastal fringes are key to controlling the World Island.
(C) It was developed by Halford Mackinder.
(D) It focuses exclusively on air power.

129. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Geopolitical Scholar)
P. Alfred Thayer Mahan
Q. Halford Mackinder
R. Nicholas Spykman
S. Friedrich Ratzel
List II: (Theory/Concept)
1. Sea Power Theory
2. Heartland Theory
3. Rimland Theory
4. Lebensraum (Organic State Theory)
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(D) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1

130. Which of the following statements about Mahan's Sea Power theory is incorrect?
(A) It argues that national greatness is linked to sea power.
(B) It heavily influenced US and British naval strategies.
(C) It asserts that land armies are obsolete and unnecessary.
(D) It emphasizes the importance of naval bases and maritime commerce.

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131. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The primary purpose of the Balance of Power system is to prevent any single state from achieving hegemony.
Reason (R): In an anarchic system, a hegemonic state poses an existential threat to the survival and independence of other states.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

132. The concept of 'Internal Balancing' refers to:
(A) Forming alliances with foreign powers.
(B) Building domestic capabilities to counter a threat.
(C) Appeasing a threatening state.
(D) Shifting the military burden to a weaker ally.

133. Consider the following elements associated with Classical Geopolitics:
1. The importance of physical geography in shaping foreign policy.
2. The strategic value of natural resources and topography.
3. The belief that technology completely nullifies geography.
4. The concept of spatial expansion for state survival.
5. The division of the world into strategic zones.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(B) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

134. Which of the following is NOT typically considered a method of maintaining the Balance of Power?
(A) Divide and Rule
(B) Creating Buffer States
(C) Bandwagoning with a rising hegemon
(D) Compensation and territorial adjustments

135. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Traditional Geopolitics views geography as an objective, fixed reality that determines state behavior.
Statement II: Critical Geopolitics argues that geopolitical knowledge is constructed by elites to justify political actions.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

136. The term 'Lebensraum', coined by Friedrich Ratzel, is defined as:
(A) The maritime trade network of a state.
(B) The living space required by a state to survive and grow.
(C) The peaceful coexistence of multiple ethnicities.
(D) A zone free of nuclear weapons.

137. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched?
(A) Mackinder - "Who rules the Rimland rules Eurasia."
(B) Spykman - "Who rules East Europe commands the Heartland."
(C) Sea power is essential for national greatness.
(D) Ratzel - "Air power is the ultimate geopolitical determinant."

138. What is the most appropriate primary aim of a Balance of Power system in international politics?
(A) To ensure absolute peace and prevent all wars.
(B) To preserve state independence and systemic anarchy.
(C) To promote international trade and globalization.
(D) To create a single world government.

139. Which of the following pairs is incorrectly matched?
(A) Heartland Theory - Halford Mackinder
(B) Rimland Theory - Nicholas Spykman
(C) Aerospace Power - Alexander Seversky
(D) Organic Theory of State - Alfred Thayer Mahan

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140. In the context of Balance of Power, 'Buck-passing' is defined as:
(A) Relying on another state to deter a rising threat.
(B) Confronting a rising threat directly through military action.
(C) Providing financial aid to weaker nations.
(D) Joining an alliance with the rising threat.

141. The strategic importance of Eastern Europe and Ukraine in contemporary Russia-West relations is often analyzed through the lens of:
(A) Complex Interdependence
(B) Mackinder's Heartland Theory
(C) Democratic Peace Theory
(D) Post-colonialism

142. Who is the author of 'The Influence of Sea Power upon History, 1660-1783'?
(A) Halford Mackinder
(B) Alfred Thayer Mahan
(C) Karl Haushofer
(D) Nicholas Spykman

143. Identify the correct statement regarding Critical Geopolitics.
(A) It relies strictly on topographic maps to predict war.
(B) It deconstructs geographical discourses used by elites.
(C) It was the official doctrine of the Third Reich.
(D) It ignores the role of language and identity.

144. The strategy of 'Offshore Balancing' primarily involves:
(A) A power maintaining permanent military deployments.
(B) A power relying on regional allies to check threats.
(C) A state abolishing its navy to focus on land defense.
(D) The creation of artificial islands for military bases.

145. Which of the following is NOT associated with Nicholas Spykman's geopolitical theory?
(A) The Rimland is more important than the Heartland.
(B) Eurasia's coastal fringes are key to global power.
(C) The United States must engage in the world to prevent a Rimland hegemon.
(D) The state functions as a biological organism that must expand its borders.

146. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Hard balancing involves military build-ups and formal alliances.
Statement II: Soft balancing involves using international institutions, economic statecraft, and diplomatic arrangements to constrain a hegemon.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

147. A primary cause-and-effect argument in traditional geopolitics is:
(A) Physical geography causes specific policy orientations.
(B) Economic wealth causes geographical expansion.
(C) Democratic governments cause changes in topography.
(D) International law causes borders to dissolve.

148. What is the best description of the difference between Political Geography and Geopolitics?
(A) They are exactly the same discipline.
(B) Geography studies effects; geopolitics prescribes policy.
(C) Political geography is for realists, geopolitics for liberals.
(D) Geopolitics studies oceans; political geography studies land.

149. The U.S. policy of 'Containment' during the Cold War was strongly influenced by the geopolitical theories of:
(A) Mahan and Sea Power
(B) Spykman's Rimland Theory
(C) Kant's Perpetual Peace
(D) Wallerstein's World-Systems

150. Who is widely credited with originating the Hegemonic Stability Theory?
(A) Kenneth Waltz
(B) Charles Kindleberger
(C) Robert Keohane

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(D) John Mearsheimer

151. Consider the following characteristics of a Bipolar system:
1. Two dominant powers hold the majority of military and economic capabilities.
2. Alliances are strictly fixed and permanent.
3. Minor powers have significant freedom to maneuver.
4. The system is highly prone to proxy wars rather than direct conflict between the superpowers.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1 and 4 only
(B) 1, 2 and 4 only
(C) 1, 3 and 4 only
(D) 2 and 3 only

152. Identify the correct statement regarding the concept of the 'Unipolar Moment'.
(A) It refers to the period immediately following WWI.
(B) It describes post-Cold War US global dominance.
(C) It implies that unipolarity is a permanent feature.
(D) It describes a world with no superpowers.

153. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Polarity Type)
P. Unipolarity
Q. Bipolarity
R. Multipolarity
S. Polycentrism
List II: (Description)
1. Multiple centers of power with varying spheres of influence.
2. One dominant state holding unparalleled power.
3. Three or more major powers balancing each other.
4. Two dominant superpowers.

(A) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1

154. Which of the following statements misrepresents arguments for the stability of Multipolarity?
(A) Morgenthau argued it is stable due to shifting alliances.
(B) It allows for fluid diplomacy and compensation.
(C) Waltz argued it is stable due to threat identification.
(D) Uncertainty deters aggression in multipolar systems.

155. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Kenneth Waltz argued that bipolar systems are inherently more stable than multipolar systems.
Reason (R): In a bipolar system, the two great powers rely solely on themselves for security, reducing uncertainty and miscalculation.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

156. The difference between 'Hegemony' and 'Unipolarity' is best described as:
(A) There is no difference; they are perfect synonyms.
(B) Unipolarity is material; Hegemony implies leadership.
(C) Hegemony requires three major powers, Unipolarity one.
(D) Unipolarity is an economic concept, Hegemony is military.

157. Consider the following indicators used to measure polarity in the international system:
1. Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
2. Military expenditure and technological capability
3. Global cultural influence
4. Demographic size
5. Diplomatic network strength

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 5 only
(B) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(C) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
(D) 1, 2 and 3 only

158. Which of the following is NOT typically a feature of a unipolar system?
(A) Absence of a peer competitor.

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(B) The unipole acting as a global policeman.
(C) Success of frequent and intense balancing coalitions.
(D) The unipole providing global public goods.

159. Consider the following statements regarding Tripolarity:
Statement I: Tripolarity is considered highly stable because the three powers can easily form a permanent balance.
Statement II: Tripolarity is often considered structurally unstable because two powers will naturally combine against the third.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

160. 'Polycentrism' in International Relations refers to:
(A) A system dominated by a single authoritarian state.
(B) An order with multiple centers and no strict hierarchy.
(C) The division of the world strictly into two camps.
(D) A theoretical model where states have no borders.

161. Which of the following pairs of 'Polarity Type and Historical Era' is correctly matched?
(A) Unipolarity - Europe in the 19th Century
(B) Bipolarity - The Cold War (1945-1991)
(C) Multipolarity - Post-Cold War 1990s
(D) Polycentrism - The Roman Empire

162. Systemic polarity in IR is best defined as:
(A) The ideological division between left and right wing governments.
(B) The way power is distributed within the system.
(C) The geographical division between the hemispheres.
(D) The distinction between nuclear and non-nuclear states.

163. Which of the following pairs is incorrectly matched regarding preferred systemic stability?
(A) Kenneth Waltz - Bipolarity
(B) Hans Morgenthau - Multipolarity
(C) William Wohlforth - Unipolarity
(D) Karl Marx - Bipolarity

164. 'Multipolarity' is defined as an international system where:
(A) Two states hold roughly equal power.
(B) Power is dispersed among three or more equal powers.
(C) A single hegemon dictates international law.
(D) Non-state actors have completely replaced states.

165. Assessing the current international system, characterized by US military dominance, China's economic rise, a resurgent Russia, and an influential EU, is best categorized as an analysis of:
(A) Strict Bipolarity
(B) Emerging Multipolarity / Polycentrism
(C) Pure Unipolarity
(D) Absolute Anarchy

166. Who popularized the term 'Unipolar Moment' in 1990?
(A) Francis Fukuyama
(B) Charles Krauthammer
(C) Samuel Huntington
(D) John Mearsheimer

167. Identify the correct statement regarding a Polycentric world order.
(A) It is solely dictated by military capabilities.
(B) It recognizes diffused power among regional actors.
(C) It is synonymous with classical bipolarity.
(D) It requires the dissolution of the United Nations.

168. 'Power Transition Theory' argues that major wars are most likely when:
(A) There is an equal balance of power.
(B) A rising power approaches parity with a hegemon.
(C) The international system is completely multipolar.
(D) All states are democracies.

169. Which of the following was NOT considered a major pole in the multipolar system of pre-WWI Europe?

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(A) Great Britain
(B) France
(C) The United States
(D) Russia

170. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Proponents of unipolar stability argue that a single hegemon deters major conflict because no state can successfully challenge it.
Statement II: Critics argue unipolarity is unstable because the hegemon overextends itself and secondary powers eventually balance against it.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

171. What is a primary cause of the transition from unipolarity to multipolarity?
(A) The signing of a global peace treaty.
(B) Uneven growth allowing rising powers to build strength.
(C) The sudden decrease in global population.
(D) The expansion of the UN Security Council.

172. What is the most common neorealist argument for the instability of Multipolarity?
(A) States will trade too much and lose their sovereignty.
(B) Miscalculation and shifting alliances lead to war.
(C) Democracies cannot function in a multipolar world.
(D) International organizations become too powerful.

173. The era of the 1990s, where the United States operated globally without a peer military competitor, is the classic case study of:
(A) Multipolarity
(B) Bipolarity
(C) Unipolarity
(D) Tripolarity

174. Identify the correct statement regarding alignment patterns in a strict bipolar system.
(A) Alliances are highly fluid and shift rapidly.
(B) Alignment is highly rigid with few defection effects.
(C) Non-alignment is mathematically impossible.
(D) Superpowers frequently fight direct, total wars.

175. Which historical treaty is widely recognized as foundational for the modern system of sovereign states?
(A) Treaty of Versailles (1919)
(B) Peace of Westphalia (1648)
(C) Congress of Vienna (1815)
(D) Treaty of Utrecht (1713)

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176. According to the Montevideo Convention (1933), which of the following are the core criteria of statehood?
1. A permanent population
2. A defined territory
3. A government
4. Capacity to enter into relations with other states

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 3 only
(B) 2, 3 and 4 only
(C) 1, 3 and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

177. Identify the correct statement regarding the concept of 'Sovereignty'.
(A) It implies that states must always obey the United Nations.
(B) It asserts absolute authority over territory and people.
(C) It was abolished by the League of Nations.
(D) It only applies to democratic nations.

178. Match List I with List II:
List I: (State Type)
P. Quasi-State
Q. Fragile/Failed State
R. Micro-state
S. Buffer State
List II: (Definition)
1. A state that cannot perform basic functions or control its territory.
2. A small, neutral state situated between two hostile powers.
3. A state possessing international legal sovereignty but lacking empirical capacity.
4. A sovereign state with a very small population and land area.

(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

179. Which of the following statements about Westphalian Sovereignty is incorrect?
(A) It established the principle of non-interference.
(B) It recognized the right of rulers to determine religion.
(C) It established the authority of the Pope over monarchs.
(D) It recognized the legal equality of sovereign states.

180. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Traditional International Relations approaches heavily prioritize the state as the primary actor.
Reason (R): States possess a monopoly on the legitimate use of physical force and have international legal personality.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

181. In IR, the concept of a 'Quasi-state' refers to an entity that:
(A) Has empirical statehood but lacks international recognition.
(B) Is recognized as sovereign but lacks domestic capacity.
(C) Is fully functional but refuses to join the UN.
(D) Is an autonomous region within a larger state.

182. Consider the following contemporary challenges to state sovereignty:
1. Economic globalization and transnational capital flows.
2. International human rights norms and humanitarian intervention.
3. Transnational terrorism and cyber threats.
4. Global environmental crises like climate change.
5. The total collapse of the international system into a world empire.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

183. Which of the following is NOT formally considered a criterion of statehood under classical international law?
(A) Permanent population
(B) Defined territory
(C) Democratic government
(D) Capacity to enter into relations with other states

184. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Internal sovereignty refers to the supreme authority of the state over all entities within its territory.
Statement II: External sovereignty refers to the recognition of the state as independent and equal by other states.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

185. 'National Interest' is best defined as:
(A) The philanthropic goals of a state towards other nations.
(B) The perceived fundamental goals of state survival.
(C) The interests of international organizations in a state.
(D) The personal wealth of a state's leader.

186. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched?
(A) Fragile State - Somalia
(B) Superpower - Switzerland
(C) Micro-state - Canada
(D) Buffer State - United States

187. What is the most precise definition of a 'Nation-State'?
(A) Any territory governed by an authoritarian regime.

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(B) A sovereign state whose citizens are relatively homogeneous.
(C) An international organization that regulates trade.
(D) A state that contains dozens of conflicting ethnic groups.

188. Which of the following concepts is incorrectly matched with its meaning?
(A) De facto sovereignty - Actual control over a territory.
(B) De jure sovereignty - Legal right to rule.
(C) Supranationalism - States retaining absolute veto power.
(D) Secession - Formal withdrawal from an existing state.

189. 'Foreign Policy' is best defined as:
(A) The strategy a government uses to manage its economy.
(B) Strategies and goals guiding interactions with others.
(C) The administration of local municipalities.
(D) The internal legal code of a nation.

190. Evaluating a 'rogue state's' pursuit of nuclear weapons against international norms is an exercise that primarily assumes the state acts as a:
(A) Unitary rational actor pursuing security or power.
(B) Subservient agent of an intergovernmental organization.
(C) Purely non-state entity operating in world politics.
(D) Altruistic internationalist pursuing global cooperation.

191. Which foundational scholar heavily emphasized the 'State as a rational, unitary actor' in international politics?
(A) Alexander Wendt
(B) Kenneth Waltz
(C) Robert Cox
(D) Immanuel Wallerstein

192. Identify the correct statement regarding Micro-states in the international system.
(A) They are forbidden from joining the United Nations.
(B) They possess legal sovereignty and voting equality.
(C) They must surrender their foreign policy to neighbors.
(D) They cannot maintain any diplomatic relations.

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193. In IR and Area Studies, 'State Capacity' primarily refers to:
(A) The maximum population a territory can hold.
(B) The ability to implement policies and enforce laws.
(C) The size of a state's physical landmass.
(D) The number of votes a state has in the UN.

194. Which of the following is NOT traditionally considered a core function of a sovereign state?
(A) Defense against external threats.
(B) Maintenance of internal order.
(C) Global management of multi-planetary colonies.
(D) Provision of public goods and infrastructure.

195. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Hyperglobalists argue that globalization is leading to the demise of the sovereign state.
Statement II: Skeptics argue that states remain the dominant actors and have merely adapted to globalization.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

196. What is a primary effect of successful secessionist movements on the international system?
(A) The immediate dissolution of the United Nations.
(B) The proliferation of new sovereign states.
(C) The creation of a unified world government.
(D) The end of all diplomatic relations globally.

197. Which of the following best describes the role of 'Middle Powers' in the international system?
(A) They dictate the polarity of the system.
(B) They play crucial roles in multilateral diplomacy.
(C) They are completely irrelevant to international relations.

(D) They possess massive nuclear arsenals and force projection.

198. Taiwan's status in the international system is a classic case study of:
(A) A state with de jure sovereignty but no control.
(B) An entity with de facto statehood but limited recognition.
(C) A full member of the UN Security Council.
(D) A completely stateless nation with no government.

199. Identify the correct statement regarding Max Weber's definition of the state.
(A) A state is defined by its democratic institutions.
(B) A community claiming the monopoly on legitimate force.
(C) A state is defined solely by its economic output.
(D) A state is an illusion created by capitalism.

200. What is the standard IR term for non-governmental organizations that operate across international borders?
(A) Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)
(B) International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs)
(C) Transnational Corporations (TNCs)
(D) Epistemic Communities

201. Consider the following entities:
1. Multinational Corporations (MNCs)
2. Transnational Advocacy Networks (TANs)
3. Violent Non-State Actors (VNSAs)
4. The United Nations General Assembly

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct regarding Non-State Actors?
(A) 1, 2 and 3 only
(B) 1, 3 and 4 only
(C) 2, 3 and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

202. Identify the correct statement regarding the role of Multinational Corporations (MNCs) in IR.
(A) They are strictly bound by the laws of a single country.
(B) They influence state policies and control resources.
(C) They are purely philanthropic entities with no profit motive.
(D) They are officially members of the UN Security Council.

203. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Actor)
P. Amnesty International
Q. Toyota
R. Al-Qaeda
S. World Trade Organization (WTO)
List II: (Classification)
1. Intergovernmental Organization (IGO)
2. Multinational Corporation (MNC)
3. International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO)
4. Violent Non-State Actor (VNSA)
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4

204. Which of the following statements about INGOs is incorrect?
(A) They are established by treaties between sovereign states.
(B) They rely on private funding and donations.
(C) They often engage in lobbying and norm advocacy.
(D) They operate independently of direct government control.

205. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Complex interdependence theorists argue that the dominance of the state is being challenged.
Reason (R): Non-state actors, such as MNCs and INGOs, play increasingly critical roles in setting global agendas and managing transnational issues.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

206. 'Transnational Advocacy Networks' (TANs) primarily function by:
(A) Maximizing profit through global supply

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chains.
(B) Using information and pressure to promote norm changes.
(C) Conducting covert military operations.
(D) Collecting taxes from citizens globally.

207. Consider the following impacts of transnational terrorism as a Violent Non-State Actor (VNSA):
1. It alters national security strategies of major powers.
2. It challenges the state's monopoly on legitimate violence.
3. It entirely ends international trade.
4. It utilizes globalization tools like the internet for recruitment.
5. It often operates across porous borders.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(B) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

208. Which of the following is an exception to the category of Non-State Actors?
(A) Greenpeace
(B) The World Health Organization (WHO)
(C) The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
(D) Human Rights Watch

209. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Epistemic communities are networks of professionals with recognized expertise and authoritative claims to policy-relevant knowledge in a particular issue area.
Statement II: Epistemic communities only exist within military organizations.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

210. An 'Intergovernmental Organization' (IGO) is explicitly defined as:
(A) An organization composed primarily of private citizens.
(B) An entity created by treaty to work on common interests.
(C) A corporate entity seeking global monopolies.
(D) A localized rebel group fighting a government.

211. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched regarding primary motives?
(A) MNC - Profit maximization
(B) INGO - Territorial conquest
(C) VNSA - Environmental conservation
(D) IGO - Corporate tax evasion

212. What is the most appropriate description of the impact of non-state actors on global governance?
(A) They have completely replaced the state system.
(B) They create multiple layers of authority alongside states.
(C) They have no impact on state sovereignty.
(D) They only operate in democratic countries.

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213. Which of the following non-state actors is incorrectly categorized?
(A) Red Cross - INGO
(B) Boko Haram - VNSA
(C) Google - Epistemic Community
(D) Catholic Church - Transnational Religious Actor

214. A 'Transnational Corporation' (TNC) or MNC is defined as:
(A) A company that only exports goods from its home country.
(B) An enterprise that owns production in other countries.
(C) A state-owned enterprise that only operates domestically.
(D) A non-profit organization focused on trade law.

215. Assessing Amnesty International's ability to 'name and shame' governments into improving prison conditions is an evaluation of:
(A) Hard military power.
(B) Soft power and normative influence.
(C) Hegemonic stability.
(D) Commercial liberalism.

216. Which scholars prominently introduced the concept of 'Transnational Relations' as interactions across state boundaries where at least one actor is not an agent of a government?
(A) Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye
(B) Kenneth Waltz and John Mearsheimer

(C) Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels
(D) Hans Morgenthau and E.H. Carr

217. Identify the correct statement regarding Violent Non-State Actors (VNSAs).
(A) They are officially recognized by the UN as sovereign.
(B) They challenge state authority through armed force.
(C) They operate strictly within the Geneva Conventions.
(D) They are solely funded by intergovernmental organizations.

218. The concept of 'Global Civil Society' refers to:
(A) The network of global militaries.
(B) Groups operating across borders to promote interests.
(C) A single unified global government.
(D) The elite club of multinational CEOs.

219. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of an 'Epistemic Community'?
(A) Shared normative and principled beliefs.
(B) Shared causal beliefs (expert knowledge).
(C) A primary goal of violent territorial expansion.
(D) A common policy enterprise.

220. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Realists argue that non-state actors are subordinate to states and only exist because states allow them to.
Statement II: Liberals argue that non-state actors have independent agency and can compel states to change policies.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

221. What is a primary cause-and-effect relationship regarding technological advancement and non-state actors?
(A) Technological progress empowered actors to organize globally.
(B) Nuclear technology has caused NGOs to disband.
(C) Social media has caused states to become isolated.
(D) Artificial Intelligence has caused the end of corporations.

222. What is the best description of the function of philanthropic foundations (e.g., Ford Foundation) in IR?
(A) They deploy peacekeeping troops.
(B) They fund research and shape development agendas.
(C) They print international currency.
(D) They negotiate arms control treaties between superpowers.

223. Analyzing Al-Qaeda as a franchise-like network that operates in multiple countries independently of any single government is a case study of:
(A) A traditional intergovernmental organization.
(B) A transnational violent non-state actor.
(C) A classical balance of power mechanism.
(D) A neoliberal economic regime.

224. Identify the correct statement regarding Private Military and Security Companies (PMSCs).
(A) They are illegal under all domestic laws.
(B) They represent the privatization of military services.
(C) They are purely volunteer organizations.
(D) They only operate in peacetime.

225. The concept of the 'Global South' in modern Area Studies is primarily used to describe:
(A) Countries geographically located strictly south of the equator.
(B) Nations marginalized in the global political economy.
(C) The military alliance of Australia and New Zealand.
(D) The wealthiest industrialized nations.

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226. Consider the following methodological approaches common in Area Studies:
1. Ethnography and fieldwork
2. Language proficiency
3. Pure rational choice mathematical modeling devoid of context
4. Historical and archival research

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 4 only
(B) 1, 2 and 3 only

(C) 2, 3 and 4 only
(D) 1, 3 and 4 only

227. Identify the correct statement regarding 'Cross-regional studies'.
(A) It isolates a single region and ignores the rest.
(B) It involves comparing phenomena across distinct regions.
(C) It is entirely identical to Global Systems theory.
(D) It rejects all empirical data.

228. Match List I with List II:
List I: (IR Theory)
P. Realism
Q. Constructivism
R. Post-colonialism
S. Liberalism
List II: (Application to Area Studies)
1. Focuses on regional identity formation and norms.
2. Focuses on regional balance of power and security dilemmas.
3. Focuses on the legacy of imperial rule on current regional borders.
4. Focuses on regional integration and institutional trade pacts.
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4

229. Which of the following statements incorrectly characterizes Eurocentrism in Area Studies?
(A) It applies Western concepts as universal benchmarks.
(B) It views non-Western regions as deficient if they deviate from Western models.
(C) It treats indigenous knowledge as the absolute standard of universal truth.
(D) It historically categorized regions based on European colonial administrative divisions.

230. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Area Studies and IR theory are highly complementary fields.
Reason (R): Area Studies provides the rich, contextual empirical data needed to test, refine, or challenge grand IR theories.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

231. Applying 'Constructivism' to Area Studies often involves examining:
(A) The exact number of tanks a region possesses.
(B) How identities and cultural norms construct interests.
(C) The natural resource deposits in a geography.
(D) The absolute economic output of a region.

232. Consider the following benefits of combining IR and Area Studies:
1. Prevents grand theories from becoming overly abstract.
2. Helps reveal the limits of Western-centric theories.
3. Completely replaces the need for qualitative data.
4. Enhances the understanding of regional institutional dynamics.
5. Provides culturally nuanced policy recommendations.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(B) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

233. Which of the following is NOT typically defined as a macro-region in traditional Area Studies frameworks?
(A) Latin America
(B) Sub-Saharan Africa
(C) The Global Stratosphere
(D) Southeast Asia

234. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: The institutionalization of Area Studies in the United States was heavily funded by the government and foundations during the Cold War.
Statement II: The purpose was to generate strategic knowledge about the 'Third World' to contain communism.

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Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

235. 'Regionalism' in International Relations is best defined as:
(A) The collapse of states into localized tribes.
(B) Institutionalized cooperation within a geographic area.
(C) A military strategy of destroying neighboring states.
(D) The universal application of a single currency globally.

236. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched regarding IR theory and its application in Area Studies?
(A) Dependency Theory - Analyzing the EU's internal deficit.
(B) Neorealism - Analyzing South Asian systemic constraints.
(C) Commercial Liberalism - Explaining religious fundamentalism.
(D) Constructivism - Measuring the exact GDP growth.

237. What is the most appropriate way a 'Region' is defined in modern IR and Area Studies?
(A) Purely by tectonic plate boundaries.
(B) As a social construct based on cultural ties.
(C) Strictly by linguistic homogeneity.
(D) Exclusively by colonial borders drawn in the 19th century.

238. Which of the following regions is incorrectly matched with its dominant regional organization?
(A) Southeast Asia - ASEAN
(B) South America - MERCOSUR
(C) Africa - African Union (AU)
(D) Middle East - European Union (EU)

239. 'Comparative Area Studies' refers to:
(A) The ranking of regions from best to worst.
(B) An approach comparing phenomena across different regions.
(C) The process of assimilating one region into another.
(D) A strictly quantitative approach ignoring cultural variables.

240. Using Critical Theory to study the Middle East would most likely involve:
(A) Counting the number of barrels of oil produced per day.
(B) Analyzing how discourses legitimize interventions.
(C) Predicting the next military coup using regression.
(D) Ignoring the role of local populations in favor of leaders.

241. The classical 'Area Studies vs. Disciplines' debate in academia primarily centered around:
(A) Whether to study physics or chemistry.
(B) Tension between general laws and context-specific knowledge.
(C) Whether universities should charge tuition.
(D) The conflict between qualitative and historical researchers.

242. Identify the correct statement regarding the relationship between multipolarity and regional hegemony.
(A) In a multipolar world, regional hegemons are impossible.
(B) Multipolarity allows powers to exert regional influence.
(C) Regional hegemons only exist in strict unipolarity.
(D) Multipolarity forces all regions to merge.

243. The conceptual term 'Global East', recently debated in Area Studies, seeks to highlight:
(A) The absolute dominance of North America.
(B) The distinct trajectories of East Asian and Eurasian states.
(C) The irrelevance of the Pacific Ocean in trade.
(D) A military alliance against the Global South.

244. Which of the following is an exception to the key factors considered when defining the 'Geopolitics' of a specific area?
(A) Topography and natural borders
(B) Access to maritime routes
(C) The dominant literary genres of the 18th century
(D) Distribution of natural resources

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245. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Decolonial approaches in Area Studies argue for the 'epistemic disobedience' against Western knowledge frameworks.
Statement II: They seek to center the voices, histories, and epistemologies of the colonized subjects.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Statement I only
(B) Statement II only
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II
(D) Neither Statement I nor Statement II

246. What was a major cause-and-effect relationship regarding the end of the Cold War and Area Studies?
(A) The end of the Cold War caused an increase in funding.
(B) The end of the Cold War caused a decline in funding.
(C) It caused Area Studies to completely merge with biology.
(D) It caused the United Nations to ban Area Studies.

247. What is the most widely advocated future trajectory for Area Studies by contemporary scholars?
(A) Total abandonment in favor of rational choice theory.
(B) A Global Area Studies approach integrating dynamics.
(C) A return to purely descriptive, isolated accounts.
(D) Exclusive focus on linguistic grammar without analysis.

248. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is most frequently used as a case study to understand the IR concept of:
(A) Hegemonic stability and unipolarity.
(B) Regionalism, cooperative security, and norm-building.
(C) World-Systems core-periphery exploitation.
(D) Democratic Peace Theory among purely democratic states.

249. Identify the correct statement regarding Polycentrism and regional organizations.
(A) Polycentrism makes regional organizations obsolete.
(B) A polycentric order enhances regional organization roles.
(C) Regional organizations in a polycentric world must be identical.
(D) Polycentrism requires regional organizations to disarm.

250. Which of the following provides the most comprehensive definition of Area Studies in contemporary academia?
(A) The interdisciplinary study of regional aspects and global forces.
(B) The purely statistical analysis of state GDPs.
(C) The study of international maritime law.
(D) The biological study of flora and fauna in a specific country.

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In analyzing a recent regional conflict, scholars noted that the involved nations prioritized military buildup and strategic territorial control above all else. This scenario perfectly illustrates the core tenets of the Realist theory in International Relations, where states are viewed as the primary, unitary actors driven by a pursuit of national interest defined in terms of power. Despite international calls for diplomatic resolution through global institutions, the states exhibited a profound distrust of mutual cooperation, fearing that relative gains by their neighbors would compromise their own security. The Liberal theory, which advocates for the mitigating effects of international organizations and economic interdependence, was largely sidelined in this case. Decision-makers explicitly stated that relying on international norms offered no tangible security guarantees in an anarchic system. Consequently, the regional dynamic became a zero-sum game, emphasizing self-help and survival. This specific case highlights how the scope and nature of International Relations often grapple with the persistent relevance of power maximization. Ultimately, the scenario reinforces the Realist argument that structural anarchy compels states to prioritize security through military capabilities rather than trusting institutional frameworks.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

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251. According to the source, how is the national interest defined within the Realist theory of International Relations?
(A) In terms of economic interdependence
(B) In terms of power maximization
(C) In terms of institutional cooperation
(D) In terms of diplomatic resolution

252. Why did the states in the scenario exhibit a profound distrust of mutual cooperation?
(A) Because relative gains by neighbors could compromise their security
(B) They feared absolute economic gains might weaken domestic social policies
(C) They believed international organizations lacked efficient bureaucratic processes
(D) They assumed non-state actors would soon overtake traditional state sovereignty

253. What role does the Liberal theory advocate for in the context of international conflict?
(A) The aggressive pursuit of territorial control to ensure national survival
(B) The deliberate reliance on structural anarchy to maintain balance of power
(C) The mitigating effects of organizations and economic interdependence
(D) The strategic emphasis on military buildup and zero-sum regional games

254. In the described anarchic system, what did decision-makers believe about international norms?
(A) They provided absolute protection against regional threats
(B) They effectively transformed the zero-sum game into mutual gains
(C) They functioned as the primary tool for power maximization
(D) They offered no tangible security guarantees

255. The scenario confirms the Realist argument by demonstrating that structural anarchy compels states to prioritize which of the following?
(A) Relying on global institutional frameworks
(B) Maximizing wealth through regional trade
(C) Ensuring security through military capabilities
(D) Rejecting self-help in favor of collective security

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

When examining the economic integration of a developing region into the global market, researchers applied both Marxist and Critical Theories of International Relations and Area Studies. The case revealed a persistent structural dependency where local resources and cheap labor were systematically extracted by dominant global powers. From a Marxist perspective, this scenario is understood not as a natural outcome of trade, but as an inherent mechanism of global capitalism designed to maintain a hierarchy of economic exploitation. Furthermore, Critical Theories expanded upon this analysis by questioning the very frameworks and institutions that normalize such disparities. Researchers observed that the dominant discourse surrounding 'development' often legitimized the unequal distribution of wealth while ignoring the marginalized voices within the region. The analysis focused on how ideological superstructures supported the material inequalities, challenging the traditional state-centric views of power. By applying these theoretical lenses, scholars demonstrated that the true scope of International Relations must include an examination of class struggles and structural emancipation. The case underscores the necessity of analyzing beyond diplomatic interactions to uncover the deep-seated economic and social injustices embedded within the international system.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

NODIA

256. How does the Marxist perspective interpret the extraction of local resources and cheap labor in the given scenario?
(A) As a natural and inevitable outcome of free and open global trade
(B) As a capitalist mechanism designed to maintain economic exploitation
(C) As a necessary step toward achieving long-term regional self-sufficiency
(D) As a successful integration strategy promoted by local governing bodies

257. According to Critical Theories as described in the source, what role does the dominant discourse surrounding 'development' play?
(A) It provides equal opportunities for

marginalized voices
(B) It dismantles the traditional hierarchy of economic power
(C) It encourages strict reliance on traditional state-centric views
(D) It legitimizes the unequal distribution of global wealth

258. What do Critical Theories question in the context of economic disparities?
(A) The frameworks and institutions that normalize inequality
(B) The physical borders between dominant and developing states
(C) The diplomatic protocols established by sovereign nations
(D) The necessity of engaging in any form of international trade

259. By applying Marxist and Critical theoretical lenses, scholars argue that the scope of International Relations must include the examination of:
(A) Bilateral diplomatic treaties and military alliances
(B) Geopolitical territorial acquisitions and state survival
(C) Class struggles and structural emancipation
(D) Institutional cooperation and free market expansion

260. The analysis challenges traditional state-centric views of power by focusing on the relationship between:
(A) Ideological superstructures and material inequalities
(B) Traditional military alliances and territorial boundaries
(C) Complex diplomatic negotiations and shared absolute gains
(D) International organizations and peaceful conflict resolution

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In evaluating a complex diplomatic resolution in a post-colonial territory, scholars debated the utility of Western and Non-Western approaches to Area Studies. Historically, the region's political dynamics were analyzed exclusively through a Western approach, which prioritized state sovereignty, formal institutional architectures, and universalized norms of governance. However, this framework proved inadequate in explaining the successful conflict resolution recently observed. Consequently, analysts adopted Non-Western approaches, which emphasized indigenous diplomatic traditions, communal consensus-building, and localized historical narratives. This shift in perspective revealed that local actors relied heavily on culturally specific mechanisms rather than imposed external models. The case demonstrated that Non-Western approaches provide a crucial analytical lens for understanding regional complexities that are often obscured by Eurocentric paradigms. By integrating these diverse methodologies, the nature of Area Studies is broadened, allowing for a more nuanced comprehension of international interactions. The scenario illustrates that understanding global politics requires acknowledging multiple epistemological foundations. Recognizing the validity of localized knowledge systems alongside traditional models ultimately enriches the theoretical landscape of International Relations, proving that no single approach holds a monopoly on political truth.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

261. What did the Western approach to Area Studies traditionally prioritize when analyzing the post-colonial territory?
(A) Indigenous diplomatic traditions and consensus-building
(B) Localized historical narratives and cultural norms
(C) Informal mechanisms of grassroots conflict resolution
(D) State sovereignty and formal institutional architectures

262. Why was the Western framework considered inadequate in this specific scenario?
(A) It placed excessive emphasis on local epistemological foundations
(B) It failed to explain the observed conflict resolution success
(C) It actively dismantled the pre-existing formal local institutions
(D) It relied exclusively on communal consensus-building methods

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263. Which of the following is a characteristic of the Non-Western approach as described in the source?
(A) The imposition of external governance models
(B) The universalization of state sovereignty norms
(C) The emphasis on culturally specific mechanisms
(D) The reliance on Eurocentric diplomatic paradigms

264. What is the outcome of integrating diverse methodological approaches in Area Studies?
(A) The complete replacement of traditional models with local paradigms
(B) A narrowed focus on formal institutional architectures
(C) The validation of a single approach holding political truth
(D) A more nuanced comprehension of international interactions

265. The scenario argues that understanding global politics requires the acknowledgment of:
(A) Multiple epistemological foundations
(B) Only universalized norms of governance
(C) Exclusively Western epistemological models
(D) Strictly state-centric views of conflict

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A detailed observation of a volatile continental system reveals a classic manifestation of the Balance of Power concept. Over the past decade, a single nation significantly increased its military capabilities, threatening to dominate the region. In response, neighboring states, regardless of their historical animosities, quickly formed strategic military alliances to counter this emerging hegemon. This reactionary alignment illustrates the fundamental mechanism of power politics, where states act deliberately to prevent any one actor from achieving systemic dominance. The formation of these counter-coalitions was driven by the necessity of survival in an anarchic environment, rather than ideological alignment. By pooling their resources, the smaller states successfully neutralized the offensive advantage of the rising power, thereby maintaining regional stability through a precarious equilibrium. This scenario exemplifies how the Balance of Power operates as a stabilizing force, albeit a tense one, within International Relations. The case confirms that power politics inherently generates counter-balancing behaviors, ensuring that the distribution of military and strategic capabilities remains dispersed enough to deter unilateral aggression and preserve the independence of multiple sovereign actors.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

NODIA

266. What primary event triggered the formation of strategic military alliances among the neighboring states?
(A) The recent signing of a global economic trade agreement
(B) A single nation expanding its military capabilities
(C) The promotion of ideological alignment across the region
(D) The sudden dissolution of a major international institution

267. According to the source, the fundamental mechanism of the Balance of Power is characterized by states acting to:
(A) Achieve systemic dominance over all smaller regional actors
(B) Prevent any actor from achieving systemic dominance
(C) Align exclusively based on shared domestic political ideologies
(D) Surrender national sovereignty to an international organization

268. What was the primary motivation for the neighboring states to form counter-coalitions despite historical animosities?
(A) The necessity of survival in an anarchic environment
(B) The pursuit of common cultural values
(C) The desire to establish a unipolar international system
(D) The enforcement of universalized norms of governance

269. How did the smaller states maintain regional stability in this scenario?
(A) By choosing to surrender to the emerging regional hegemon

(B) By relying on diplomatic appeals to established global powers
(C) By pooling resources to neutralize the rising power
(D) By expanding their territories into neighboring sovereign regions

270. The scenario confirms that counter-balancing behaviors in power politics serve to:
(A) Concentrate military capabilities in a single dominant state
(B) Eliminate the independence of sovereign actors
(C) Promote unilateral aggression as a viable strategy
(D) Ensure the distribution of capabilities remains dispersed

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The recent escalating tensions over a narrow maritime corridor provide a profound case study in the principles of Geopolitics within International Relations. This specific region, rich in untapped energy reserves and serving as a critical choke point for global trade routes, has become the focal point for major power politics. The case highlights how geographical features directly dictate the strategic calculations of competing nations. States vying for control over this corridor are not merely seeking economic advantage, but are fundamentally attempting to secure spatial dominance that translates into hard power. The geopolitical analysis of this scenario reveals that physical geography remains an unalterable constraint and opportunity for state behavior. By establishing naval bases along the coastlines of this corridor, states project influence far beyond their immediate borders, illustrating the timeless intersection of geography and political power. The situation underscores the reality that spatial positioning heavily influences diplomatic leverage and military strategy. Ultimately, this maritime dispute demonstrates that the core concepts of geopolitics are indispensable for understanding why certain geographic locations disproportionately determine the strategic priorities of international actors.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

271. What makes the narrow maritime corridor a focal point for major power politics in the scenario?
(A) It is the headquarters of a major global international organization
(B) It features a highly developed technological manufacturing hub
(C) It contains energy reserves and acts as a trade choke point
(D) It is an isolated geographic region with no defined strategic value

272. In the context of the source, states competing for control over the corridor are fundamentally attempting to secure:
(A) Ideological supremacy over neighboring regional cultures
(B) Spatial dominance that translates to hard power
(C) The projection of soft power through cultural diplomacy
(D) Membership in established global economic trade alliances

273. The geopolitical analysis of the maritime dispute reveals that physical geography acts as:
(A) A minor factor easily overcome by modern technological advances
(B) A purely economic variable with no perceived military relevance
(C) An outdated concept in modern theories of International Relations
(D) A geographic constraint and opportunity for state behavior

274. How do states attempt to project influence beyond their immediate borders in this specific case?
(A) By placing naval bases along the corridor coastlines
(B) By signing bilateral and multilateral environmental treaties
(C) By exporting cultural and political ideologies to neighbors
(D) By dissolving their existing strategic regional military alliances

275. What is the ultimate conclusion drawn about geopolitics from this maritime dispute?
(A) Geopolitics is largely irrelevant in the face of economic integration

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(B) Spatial positioning has no effect on current diplomatic leverage
(C) Geographic locations determine strategic priorities
(D) State behavior is independent of physical geographical features

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

An analysis of historical shifts in international structures reveals significant behavioral differences among states during periods of Bipolarity and Unipolarity. In a documented historical case of Bipolarity, global politics was entirely structured around two rival superpowers. States were compelled to align strictly with one of the two dominant blocs, creating a rigid international system defined by zero-sum competition and mutual deterrence. However, the sudden collapse of one superpower transitioned the system into a state of Unipolarity. During this unipolar moment, a single dominant state possessed overwhelming material capabilities, fundamentally altering the nature of power politics. Without a peer competitor, the unipolar power attempted to reshape international norms and institutions according to its own preferences. Meanwhile, lesser states adapted by either aligning closely with the hegemon to secure benefits or engaging in subtle, non-confrontational resistance. This structural transition demonstrates how the distribution of power dictates the available strategies for all international actors. The case underscores that the shift from a bipolar configuration to a unipolar framework drastically alters alliance dynamics, threat perceptions, and the overall stability of the international system.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

276. How is the international system described during the historical period of Bipolarity?
(A) A rigid system structured around two rival superpowers
(B) As a fluid network of international and non-state actors
(C) As an era defined by overwhelming material unipolarity
(D) As a balanced system composed of multiple equal powers

277. What immediately caused the international system to transition into a state of Unipolarity?
(A) The creation of a new, highly complex international organization
(B) The rise of regional polycentric hubs and economic networks
(C) The voluntary disarmament of both established superpowers
(D) The collapse of one rival superpower

278. In the unipolar moment described, how did the single dominant state behave?
(A) It isolated itself from all major global political engagements
(B) It reshaped international norms to fit its preferences
(C) It equally distributed material capabilities to lesser states
(D) It submitted entirely to the legal authority of international courts

279. According to the source, how did lesser states adapt to the condition of Unipolarity?
(A) By initiating direct, confrontational warfare against the hegemon
(B) By forming a rival superpower bloc to balance the international system
(C) By aligning with the hegemon or using subtle resistance
(D) By completely ignoring the systemic structural transition of power

280. The structural transition from Bipolarity to Unipolarity demonstrates that available strategies for international actors are dictated by:
(A) The deeply held ideological beliefs of global non-state actors
(B) The localized diplomatic traditions found in specific regions
(C) The economic policies and trade goals of the lesser states alone
(D) The distribution of power in the system

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Current observations of the global economic and strategic landscape indicate a definitive move toward Multipolarity and Polycentrism within International Relations. In a recent trade and security summit, it became evident that influence

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is no longer concentrated in one or two capitals. Instead, several major regional powers asserted their strategic autonomy, forming fluid, issue-based coalitions rather than permanent alliances. This scenario vividly illustrates Multipolarity, where three or more actors possess significant capabilities and negotiate power dynamics continuously. Furthermore, the case highlights the concept of Polycentrism in Area Studies, as distinct cultural and economic hubs operate independently of traditional global centers. These multiple centers of power dictate their regional norms while simultaneously engaging in global competition. The interaction between these diverse hubs requires complex diplomacy, as states must navigate an unpredictable environment where power is diffuse. This structural reality diminishes the likelihood of global hegemony and fosters a highly competitive yet interdependent international system. The summit's outcome confirms that understanding contemporary power politics necessitates analyzing a polycentric world where multiple capable actors continuously redefine the balance of influence and regional authority.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

281. What characterizes the definitive move toward Multipolarity observed at the recent summit?
(A) The assertion of strategic autonomy by several regional powers
(B) The concentration of influence in a single global capital
(C) The strict reliance on rigid, permanent alliances
(D) The complete withdrawal of regional powers from global competition

282. According to the source, how is Multipolarity functionally defined?
(A) As an environment where power is concentrated in two dominant blocs
(B) As a system where three or more actors possess significant capabilities
(C) As a hierarchy led by non-state actors and international corporations
(D) As a rigid system where power dynamics are rarely negotiated

283. How does the concept of Polycentrism manifest in the described scenario?
(A) Through a single hegemon dictating all regional norms
(B) Through distinct cultural and economic hubs operating independently
(C) Through the elimination of global competition among states
(D) Through the consolidation of all regional authorities into one center

284. What is a direct consequence of a system where power is diffuse across diverse hubs?
(A) Likelihood of global hegemony is diminished
(B) Diplomacy becomes straightforward and highly predictable
(C) Interdependence among states is completely and totally eradicated
(D) Regional norms are uniformly standardized across all global areas

NODIA

285. The formation of fluid, issue-based coalitions implies that in a multipolar landscape, alliances are:
(A) Permanent and ideologically rigid
(B) Dictated entirely by traditional global centers
(C) Temporary and driven by specific interests
(D) Unnecessary for regional authorities

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A recent environmental treaty negotiation provided a compelling case study on the evolving roles of State and Non-State Actors in International Relations. Traditionally, such negotiations were exclusively the domain of sovereign states prioritizing national economic interests. However, in this scenario, highly organized transnational non-governmental organizations and powerful multinational corporations exerted unprecedented influence over the diplomatic process. The non-state actors provided critical scientific data, mobilized global public opinion, and heavily lobbied state delegations. As a result, the final treaty included stringent regulations that many states initially opposed. This situation highlights how the scope of IR has expanded, demonstrating that states are no longer the sole arbiters of global politics. The interaction between

these actors reveals a complex web of influence where non-state entities can constrain state sovereignty and shape international norms. By successfully altering the policy outcomes, the non-governmental organizations and corporations proved that their capacity to mobilize resources and information acts as a formidable form of power. The case confirms that analyzing contemporary power politics requires a thorough understanding of how state and non-state actors continuously negotiate authority.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

286. Traditionally, who were the exclusive domain holders in environmental treaty negotiations?
(A) Transnational and international non-governmental organizations
(B) Large-scale multinational and globalized corporations
(C) Independent and autonomous scientific research institutions
(D) States prioritizing national interests

287. What actions did non-state actors take to exert influence over the diplomatic process in the scenario?
(A) They utilized military force to directly threaten all state delegations
(B) They bypassed the treaty completely to create localized regional laws
(C) They provided data, mobilized opinion, and lobbied
(D) They seized control of state territories to enforce environmental rules

288. What was the outcome of the non-state actors' involvement in the final treaty?
(A) The proposed treaty was completely and totally abandoned by all parties
(B) The treaty included regulations states initially opposed
(C) The treaty explicitly banned multinational firms from all future events
(D) The treaty reinforced traditional state sovereignty without any changes

289. The situation described in the source indicates that in contemporary global politics:
(A) States remain the absolute and sole arbiters of all international norms
(B) The scope of International Relations is narrowing over time
(C) Information and public mobilization are irrelevant forms of power
(D) Non-state entities have the ability to constrain state sovereignty

290. According to the case, how did non-governmental organizations and corporations prove they hold a formidable form of power?
(A) By altering policy through resources and data
(B) By establishing new sovereign and strategic territorial borders
(C) By replacing sovereign states in all United Nations assemblies
(D) By dissolving their own structures to empower local city governments

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The investigation of a localized governance crisis illustrates the essential differences and intersections regarding the major concepts, scope, and nature of International Relations and Area Studies. While IR scholars initially analyzed the crisis by looking at the involvement of foreign states and global institutional pressures, this macro-level approach failed to explain the persistent domestic resistance. Subsequently, researchers utilizing an Area Studies framework examined the specific historical, linguistic, and cultural dimensions unique to the region. This localized approach revealed that the crisis was deeply rooted in historical grievances and unique socio-political structures that universal IR models overlooked. The case demonstrates that while the nature of IR seeks to establish broad, systemic theories of state interaction, the scope of Area Studies delves into the granular, culturally specific contexts necessary for profound comprehension. By merging these disciplines, analysts achieved a holistic understanding, recognizing that global political phenomena are always filtered through specific regional realities. This scenario validates the argument that robust political analysis requires both the structural breadth of International Relations and the deep, contextual depth provided by specialized Area Studies.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

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291. How did International Relations scholars initially analyze the localized governance crisis?
(A) By examining specific regional linguistic and cultural dimensions
(B) By focusing on historical grievances of specific local communities
(C) By looking at foreign states and global pressures
(D) By implementing wide-ranging grass-roots socio-political surveys

292. Why did the initial macro-level approach of IR fail in this specific investigation?
(A) It could not explain the persistent domestic resistance
(B) It lacked sufficient data on global institutional frameworks
(C) It paid too much attention to cultural and linguistic dimensions
(D) It was exclusively focused on non-state actors

293. What elements did researchers utilizing the Area Studies framework focus on?
(A) General systemic theories regarding state and actor interaction
(B) Universalized models of international and regional governance
(C) The direct involvement of foreign states in global trade markets
(D) Historical, linguistic, and cultural dimensions

294. According to the source, what is the primary nature of International Relations as a discipline?
(A) To delve deeply into granular and culturally specific contexts
(B) To establish systemic theories of state interaction
(C) To prioritize regional linguistic anomalies over political behavior
(D) To ignore all global and regional institutional pressures entirely

295. What does the merging of International Relations and Area Studies yield, according to the scenario?
(A) A complete rejection of all structural breadth in political analysis
(B) A uniform global model that is free of all cultural dimensions
(C) A holistic view filtered through regional realities
(D) The firm conclusion that localized analysis is completely irrelevant

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A comprehensive study of a successful transboundary water management agreement highlights the practical application of Liberal theory in International Relations. Two states with a long history of geopolitical rivalry faced a severe resource scarcity crisis. Instead of resorting to power politics and conflict to secure water access, they established a joint river basin commission. This scenario demonstrates the core argument of Liberal theory: that institutions and economic interdependence can mitigate the anarchic nature of the international system. By engaging in institutionalized cooperation, the states created mechanisms for transparency, dispute resolution, and equitable resource distribution. The commission functioned as a platform that lowered the transaction costs of negotiations and built mutual trust over time. Consequently, the shared economic benefits derived from stable agricultural and industrial output outweighed the perceived strategic advantages of unilateral military action. This case proves that the scope of International Relations includes scenarios where absolute gains achieved through collaboration replace the zero-sum calculations typical of traditional power politics. The successful water treaty underscores the capacity of established institutions to foster enduring peace between formerly antagonistic state actors.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

296. What specific crisis prompted the two rival states to establish a joint commission?
(A) A sudden and violent military invasion
(B) A complete breakdown in global trade
(C) An intense ideological border dispute
(D) A severe resource scarcity crisis

297. According to the source, the scenario demonstrates which core argument of Liberal theory?
(A) Institutions and trade can mitigate anarchy
(B) States must always resort to power politics

NODIA

to ensure survival
(C) Zero-sum calculations are essentially inescapable in global relations
(D) Hegemonic dominance is required for equitable resource distribution

298. How did the joint river basin commission aid the negotiating states?
(A) By increasing the transaction costs of future negotiations
(B) By lowering transaction costs and building mutual trust
(C) By acting as a platform for military intelligence gathering
(D) By isolating the states from global economic markets

299. In the context of the transboundary water agreement, why did the states choose collaboration over unilateral military action?
(A) A stronger third-party state forced them to sign the final agreement
(B) Shared economic benefits outweighed conflict advantages
(C) Unilateral military action was explicitly banned by a world court
(D) The states completely and totally abandoned their geopolitical sovereignty

300. The successful transboundary water management agreement illustrates a shift from traditional power politics toward:
(A) Absolute gains from collaboration
(B) Relative gains achieved through deception
(C) Zero-sum calculations of territorial expansion
(D) Bipolar deterrence and military buildup

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ANSWERS

1. (B) Jeremy Bentham
The term was first introduced in the late 18th century to describe the legal and political interactions between sovereign states. This scholar, primarily known for utilitarianism, sought to distinguish between internal national laws and the rules governing the external conduct of nations. His work laid the groundwork for the formal study of global political interactions and modern diplomacy.

2. (A) 1 and 2 only
This academic field prioritizes deep contextual understanding of specific geographic regions through multiple lenses like history, culture, and politics. While it gained significant institutional momentum during the mid-20th century geopolitical rivalries, it relies heavily on local language skills. It seeks to bridge the gap between universal theoretical models and the unique complexities of regional political and social realities.

3. (C) It centers on political interactions among states.
Historically, the discipline focused on the external behavior of sovereign entities within an anarchic global system. It emphasizes the importance of diplomacy, war, and the maintenance of international order through state-level decision-making. This approach treats the state as the primary unit of analysis, often overlooking domestic societal factors in favor of analyzing high-level political and strategic engagements between nations.

4. (D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Various theoretical frameworks offer distinct lenses for analyzing global politics. Realism focuses on the lack of central authority, while liberalism explores the multifaceted ties between societies. Marxism examines the relationship between economic structures and political institutions. Finally, critical theory emphasizes the liberation of individuals from oppressive structures. These concepts represent the core intellectual pillars of the major paradigms within the discipline.

NODIA

5. (C) It is synonymous with the universalist approach of Neorealism.
This field emphasizes regional specificity and the importance of localized context, which contrasts sharply with the universalist aspirations of systemic theories. While neorealism seeks to establish general laws applicable across all states regardless of their location, regional analysis prioritizes unique cultural, historical, and social factors. Therefore, the two approaches represent fundamentally different methodological and ontological perspectives in the study of world politics.

6. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
This critical concept identifies a bias where researchers equate society with the nation-state, assuming it is the natural container of social processes. By focusing exclusively on national boundaries, traditional studies often fail to account for the influence of transnational flows and actors. Consequently, the discipline faces criticism for treating the state as a self-contained unit rather than part of a broader network.

7. (D) The assumption that nation-states are the natural form of modern society.
This term describes a conceptual framework that views the nation-state as the fundamental and permanent unit of modern social and political organization. It presupposes that social relations are naturally confined within state borders, leading to a neglect of global or local processes that transcend these boundaries. Critical scholars argue that this assumption limits the ability to understand complex contemporary global dynamics.

8. (A) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
The discipline has evolved through several intellectual confrontations. These include the early clash between idealism and realism, the methodological dispute between traditionalists

and behavioralists, and the inter-paradigm debate between major worldviews. More recently, post-positivist scholars have challenged the notion of objective truth. These debates have refined the field's concepts and methods, though economic causes of early wars were not a primary debate.

9. (C) Transnational environmental advocacy
Classical perspectives historically prioritized high politics, focusing on state security, military strategy, and diplomatic history. These theories were concerned with the balance of power and the survival of the state in an anarchic environment. Consequently, issues involving non-state actors or global social movements, such as ecological activism that transcends national borders, were generally outside the primary scope of traditional academic inquiry.

10. (A) Statement I only
The formal academic study of global politics emerged as a distinct discipline in the aftermath of the First World War. This period saw the establishment of the first specialized university chairs dedicated to understanding the causes of war and the conditions for peace. However, the pioneering chair was located at Aberystwyth in Wales, rather than at traditional English institutions like the University of Oxford.

11. (D) The geopolitical necessities of the Cold War and intelligence gathering.
During the mid-20th century, the United States significantly increased investment in regional research to support its strategic objectives. The competition for influence during the Cold War required deep knowledge of the languages, cultures, and political systems of various territories globally. This funding aimed to provide the intelligence and expertise necessary for effective foreign policy and the containment of rival ideologies.

12. (A) 2, 3, 4, 1
The discipline progressed from early debates over human nature and international law to a scientific revolution focusing on data and methodology. Following this, scholars began questioning the objective foundations of social science during the post-positivist turn. Finally, a new framework emerged emphasizing the social construction of identities and norms. This sequence reflects the field's shift from normative concerns to scientific rigor and sociological inquiry.

13. (C) Robert Keohane - Complex Interdependence
This theorist, along with Joseph Nye, developed a framework that challenges traditional state-centric views. Their model highlights multiple channels of interaction between societies and the declining utility of military force in certain contexts. It emphasizes that economic, environmental, and social ties create a web of mutual sensitivity and vulnerability. This concept remains a cornerstone of liberal thought in contemporary international relations theory.

14. (D) IR seeks systemic generalizations, while Area Studies emphasizes regional specifics.
These two academic fields differ primarily in their scope and objectives. One seeks to identify universal patterns and general laws that explain the behavior of states within the global system. In contrast, the other prioritizes deep, context-specific knowledge about the history, culture, and politics of particular geographic zones. While they often inform each other, their core focus remains distinct between universality and particularity.

15. (A) Neorealism - Immanuel Kant
The philosopher mentioned is traditionally associated with the liberal tradition, specifically the idea that democratic norms and international institutions can lead to perpetual peace. Neorealism, however, is a structural theory that focuses on the anarchic nature of the international system and the distribution of power. This framework was largely developed by 20th-century scholars like Kenneth Waltz, focusing on systemic constraints rather than internal norms.

16. (B) The nature of being and what constitutes the international system.
In theoretical discourse, this term refers to the study of what exists and the fundamental nature of reality. In the context of global politics, it involves identifying the primary actors, such as states or individuals, and the structures that define their interactions. Establishing a clear understanding of these basic components is essential for developing coherent theories about

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how the international system functions and evolves.

17. (B) The application of IR theoretical concepts to specific regional contexts.
Applying a systemic concept to a specific geographic rivalry demonstrates the utility of theoretical frameworks in explaining real-world events. This situation occurs when the defensive actions of one state are perceived as threatening by its neighbor, leading to a cycle of escalation. By using this lens, researchers can better understand the structural drivers of regional tensions and the persistence of arms races.

18. (A) Aberystwyth University (University of Wales)
The first academic chair dedicated to the study of international politics was established in 1919 in Wales. This milestone marked the formal birth of the discipline as an independent field of inquiry. The position was named after the American president who championed the League of Nations and was funded to promote the scientific study of global peace and conflict in the post-war era.

19. (C) It views the sovereign state as the principal actor in the global system.
This perspective assumes that the nation-state is the most important unit in global politics, possessing the unique authority to govern territory and engage in diplomacy. It treats states as coherent entities that act rationally to pursue their interests in an anarchic environment. While other actors exist, this approach argues they are ultimately secondary to the power and legal status of sovereign nations.

20. (D) A state's need for a consistent self-identity in foreign relations.
This concept moves beyond physical safety to address a state's need for a stable sense of self and continuity in the international system. It suggests that states seek to maintain predictable patterns of behavior and relationships to avoid the anxiety of identity disruption. Achieving this form of certainty is as vital for a state's survival as defending its physical borders and material interests.

21. (C) Universal law generation
This academic field is characterized by its focus on the unique and specific aspects of particular regions, utilizing interdisciplinary methods and linguistic expertise. It prioritizes contextual understanding over the search for general rules that apply across all geographic zones. Consequently, the pursuit of universal principles is typically the domain of systemic theories rather than the particularized focus of regional scholarship.

22. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
These two intellectual orientations represent a fundamental tension in the study of global politics. One perspective seeks to identify broad, cross-cutting patterns and theories that explain behavior regardless of location. The other emphasizes the importance of unique cultural, historical, and social contexts that shape the specific experiences of different regions. Modern scholarship often attempts to integrate these views to provide more nuanced analyses.

23. (D) It forced Area Studies to examine cross-regional linkages.
The increasing interconnectedness of the modern world has shifted the focus of regional research. Rather than treating geographic zones as isolated entities, scholars now emphasize the flows of people, ideas, and capital that connect different parts of the globe. This evolution has forced the field to move beyond traditional boundaries and consider how local events are shaped by and contribute to broader global processes.

24. (A) The study of how we can acquire knowledge about international politics.
This branch of philosophy examines the origins, nature, and limits of human understanding. In the context of political theory, it addresses the methods and justifications used to build knowledge about the international system. Researchers must consider whether their insights are based on empirical observation, logical deduction, or subjective interpretation, as these foundations determine the validity and scope of their theoretical claims.

25. (C) A post-colonial area studies approach.
This approach investigates how the structures of past imperial rule continue to influence the political and social realities of formerly colonized nations. It moves beyond simple state-level analysis to explore the deep-seated cultural and

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institutional impacts of European domination. By focusing on these historical power dynamics, the framework provides a more comprehensive understanding of the contemporary foreign policy choices of Global South nations.

26. (A) Kenneth Waltz
This influential scholar revolutionized the realist tradition by shifting the focus from human nature to the structure of the international system. His seminal work established the idea that the anarchic environment compels states to act in predictable ways to ensure their survival. By emphasizing systemic constraints over individual or domestic factors, he provided a rigorous scientific foundation for modern structural realist thought.

27. (D) 1, 2 and 4 only
This tradition views the international system as a arena for power competition, rooted in the inherent characteristics of human beings. It identifies the state as the primary actor and emphasizes the perpetual struggle for dominance and security. Unlike institutionalist perspectives, it remains skeptical of the ability of international organizations to fundamentally alter the self-interested behavior of sovereign nations in an anarchic world.

28. (B) Offensive realism maximizes power, while defensive realism maximizes security.
These two branches of structural realism differ on the optimal strategy for state survival. One argues that states should seek to accumulate as much power as possible, potentially achieving hegemony, to ensure no rival can challenge them. The other suggests that excessive power can trigger balancing coalitions, and therefore states should focus on maintaining a stable position and a sufficient level of security.

29. (C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
The realist tradition is built upon several foundational texts that have shaped the study of power and conflict. These works range from early critiques of utopian idealism to sophisticated structural analyses and theories of aggressive power maximization. Each author contributed unique insights into the nature of anarchy, the importance of the national interest, and the enduring challenges of maintaining global order.

30. (D) It ignores the role of state leaders and their perceptions.
This theoretical framework attempts to bridge the gap between systemic pressures and state-level responses. It argues that while the distribution of power provides the context for foreign policy, the actual decisions are shaped by domestic institutions and the perceptions of individual leaders. Therefore, it explicitly includes the internal characteristics of the state as vital variables in explaining how nations navigate international challenges.

31. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Realist scholars argue that the absence of a global authority creates a permanent state of insecurity. In this self-help environment, states prioritize their own survival and are wary of being exploited by others. This pervasive mistrust and the fear of relative gains by rivals make long-term, stable cooperation extremely difficult to achieve, as every agreement is viewed through tactical lenses.

32. (B) A state's security measures cause others to feel less secure.
This central concept describes a structural problem where the actions a state takes to increase its own safety are often interpreted as aggressive by its neighbors. This misperception leads the neighbors to respond with their own military build-ups, ultimately resulting in a situation where all parties feel less secure than they did initially. It highlights the tragic nature of international interaction.

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33. (A) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
This framework is based on several core premises about the international environment. It assumes that the system lacks a central government and that states are rational actors seeking survival above all else. Because intentions are uncertain and offensive capabilities exist, states must rely on themselves for protection. These assumptions lead to a focus on the distribution of power as the primary driver.

34. (D) Moral principles must be integrated into foreign policy.
This classical realist argued that politics is an autonomous sphere governed by its own laws,

separate from private morality. He emphasized that the primary responsibility of a leader is to protect the national interest, defined in terms of power, rather than to follow abstract ethical codes. While acknowledging morality, he maintained that it must be subordinated to the strategic requirements of state survival.

35. (B) Statement II only
A key distinction between paradigms is their focus on the benefits of cooperation. One view emphasizes the importance of how much a state gains compared to its rivals, fearing that an uneven distribution of benefits could shift the balance of power. The other perspective is more concerned with whether each participant experiences an overall increase in welfare, regardless of gains made by others.

36. (B) Because two great powers can easily manage the balance.
This theorist argued that a system with only two great powers is more predictable and less prone to miscalculation. In such an environment, the superpowers focus their attention on each other, making it easier to identify threats and respond to changes in the balance of power. This clarity reduces the likelihood of systemic war, as both sides understand the consequences of confrontation.

37. (A) 3, 2, 4, 1
The evolution of this tradition is marked by several key intellectual milestones. It began with a critique of interwar idealism, followed by the development of a systematic approach to power politics after the Second World War. Later, the focus shifted toward the structural constraints of the international system and, more recently, to the aggressive pursuit of regional hegemony by great powers in anarchy.

38. (C) Hans Morgenthau - Classical Realism
This scholar is a central figure in the tradition that roots international conflict in the unchanging characteristics of human nature. His work emphasized the importance of the national interest and the role of power in shaping global outcomes. Other scholars in this field focused on different levels of analysis, such as the structure of the system or domestic processes that influence policy decisions.

39. (B) To maximize power and achieve regional hegemony.
This theory posits that the best way for a state to ensure its survival in an anarchic system is to become the dominant power. It suggests that states should take every opportunity to increase their relative capabilities and eliminate potential rivals. By achieving hegemony, a state can dictate the terms of international order and prevent any other entity from posing a significant threat.

40. (A) Self-help - Depending on international institutions for survival.
The concept of self-reliance is a fundamental tenet of the realist worldview, which argues that in the absence of a global government, states must ultimately look to their own resources for survival. This stands in contrast to perspectives that place trust in international organizations. Other common strategies include aligning with stronger powers, balancing against threats, or shifting the burden of defense.

41. (B) The lack of a central authority above states.
In structural theory, this term does not imply chaos or disorder, but rather the absence of a sovereign power above the level of the nation-state. This condition forces states to act as self-interested units because there is no world government to enforce rules or guarantee their safety. It is the defining feature of the international system that shapes state behavior and interactions.

42. (C) Security Dilemma
This situation illustrates how defensive technological advancements can be perceived as offensive threats by other states. When one nation seeks to protect itself, its neighbors may fear that their own deterrent capabilities are being neutralized, prompting them to increase their weapons stockpiles. This cycle of reaction and counter-reaction demonstrates the structural obstacles to achieving stability and trust in a competitive international environment.

43. (C) John Mearsheimer
This scholar is the primary proponent of the idea that states are compelled by the anarchic structure of the system to pursue power aggressively. His work argues that because intentions can never be known with certainty, the only way to be truly safe is to be the most powerful actor. This perspective

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offers a pessimistic view of the potential for long-term peace.

44. (B) It refers to risks when a rising power threatens a ruling power.
This concept, named after the ancient historian, describes the inherent danger that arises when a dominant power is challenged by a rapidly growing rival. This structural tension often leads to a catastrophic war as both sides struggle to maintain or achieve dominance. It is frequently used by contemporary analysts to describe the potential for conflict in the relationship between global superpowers.

45. (A) Bandwagoning
This strategic choice occurs when a less powerful state decides to join forces with a rising threat rather than opposing it. This behavior may be motivated by a desire to share in the benefits of the stronger state's success or simply to avoid becoming a target. It is often contrasted with the strategy of balancing, where states unite to counter a dominant power.

46. (C) Institutions have autonomous power over states.
Realist theories are built on the belief that states are the primary, rational, and unitary actors in the international system. They prioritize national security and survival above all other goals in an anarchic environment. From this perspective, international organizations are seen as tools of the most powerful states rather than independent entities with the authority to dictate behavior or change competition.

47. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
These two branches of the same tradition offer different explanations for the persistence of conflict. One focuses on the internal, psychological drivers of human behavior, arguing that the desire for power is innate. The other emphasizes the external, structural constraints imposed by the absence of a global sovereign. Both views agree that war is a central feature of international political life.

48. (B) A high probability of war as challengers contest order.
This theory suggests that the international order is most stable when a single dominant state provides leadership and enforces rules. When this leader's power begins to fade, rising challengers are more likely to contest the existing system, leading to a period of instability and a high risk of systemic conflict. This transition period is seen as particularly dangerous for global peace.

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49. (B) IOs are tools reflecting the distribution of power.
From this perspective, international organizations are not independent actors but rather arenas where states pursue their own interests. Their design and function are seen as a reflection of the underlying distribution of material capabilities among sovereign nations. While they may facilitate some cooperation, they are ultimately limited by the willingness of powerful states to abide by their rules and maintain support.

50. (C) Classical Realism
This famous historical exchange highlights the harsh reality of power politics, where the interests of the strong override the appeals to justice or morality by the weak. It serves as a foundational example of the belief that international relations is governed by the pursuit of survival and the exercise of force. This perspective emphasizes that material power is the ultimate arbiter.

51. (C) Immanuel Kant
This Enlightenment philosopher proposed that a pacific union of republican states could establish a lasting peace. He argued that when the people who suffer the costs of war have a say in the decision-making process, they will be more reluctant to support conflict. His ideas laid the groundwork for modern theories that explore the tendency of democracies to resolve disputes peacefully.

52. (A) 1, 2 and 3 only
This framework acknowledges that the international system is anarchic but argues that states can overcome cooperation problems through shared rules and organizations. It emphasizes that states are rational actors who prioritize overall welfare and absolute gains over purely relative comparisons. By reducing uncertainty and lowering transaction costs, institutions make it possible for nations to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes and cooperation.

53. (B) It involves multiple channels connecting societies.
This theoretical model challenges the idea that states are the only relevant actors in global politics. It highlights the importance of various links between non-governmental organizations, corporations, and individuals that transcend national borders. In this environment, the traditional hierarchy of issues is blurred, and the utility of military force is reduced, leading to a more multifaceted and cooperative international engagement.

54. (B) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
The liberal tradition encompasses a diverse range of ideas, from early philosophical arguments for peace to contemporary analyses of international cooperation. These scholars have explored how democratic governance, economic ties, and institutional rules can mitigate the effects of anarchy. Their works emphasize the potential for progress and the importance of shared norms and interests in shaping a more stable global order.

55. (C) It suggests that mercantilist policies are the best guarantee of peace.
This theory argues that open markets and economic integration create powerful incentives for states to avoid conflict. By increasing the costs of war and the benefits of trade, interdependence makes peaceful cooperation the most rational choice for pursuing national welfare. Therefore, protectionist economic policies are seen as obstacles to global stability rather than guarantees of peace, as they disrupt interconnectedness.

56. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Research has consistently shown that established democracies are highly unlikely to engage in military conflict with each other. This phenomenon is often attributed to shared values, such as the peaceful resolution of disputes, and the domestic constraints placed on leaders by public opinion and institutional checks. These factors create a zone of peace where cooperation is the norm and war is rejected.

57. (B) A scenario where all participating states benefit.
This concept focuses on the total increase in welfare that results from cooperation, regardless of how those benefits are distributed among the participants. Liberal theorists argue that states are more likely to engage in international agreements if they perceive a net positive outcome for themselves. This perspective contrasts with the realist emphasis on relative gains, which prioritizes a state's standing compared to rivals.

58. (A) 1, 2, and 3 only
This framework describes a world where societies are linked through numerous non-governmental and informal channels. It assumes that there is no clear priority given to security issues over economic or social concerns, and that military force is an ineffective tool for achieving most policy goals. This multifaceted view of global politics emphasizes the role of diverse actors and mutual sensitivity in interconnectivity.

59. (C) Viewing the state as a black box.
The liberal worldview is characterized by a belief in the potential for human progress and the power of reason to improve the global condition. It places significant value on the role of international organizations and the influence of domestic factors, such as government type and societal interests. Unlike realist models that treat the state as a single unit, this perspective looks inward.

60. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
Both of these structural theories share the assumption that the international system is anarchic and that states act as rational, self-interested units. However, they differ on the potential for cooperation. One argues that international regimes can overcome obstacles like cheating and high transaction costs, while the other remains more skeptical. Despite their different conclusions, they both use similar rationalist frameworks.

61. (B) High interdependence reduces military conflict likelihood.
This perspective posits that as nations become more economically intertwined, the disruption caused by war becomes increasingly costly and undesirable. The benefits of continued trade and investment create a strong interest for both governments and private actors in maintaining peaceful relations. Consequently, economic integration serves as a powerful deterrent against

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military aggression and promotes a more stable and cooperative international environment.

62. (A) 2, 3, 1, 4
The development of liberal thought has moved from early philosophical foundations to practical institutional frameworks and modern empirical theories. It began with Enlightenment ideas about republicanism, followed by post-war efforts to build a new world order based on collective security. Later, scholars introduced models focusing on transnational ties and eventually formalized the link between domestic democracy and the absence of war.

63. (A) Robert Keohane - Neoliberal Institutionalism
This scholar is a leading figure in the branch of theory that explores how states can cooperate under anarchy through international organizations. His work demonstrates that regimes can reduce uncertainty and facilitate mutually beneficial agreements by providing information and monitoring behavior. This approach provides a rigorous, rationalist defense of the role and importance of institutions in maintaining global order and promoting cooperation.

64. (B) Convergent principles, norms, and rules in an area.
This term refers to the set of shared expectations and agreements that govern state behavior in a particular issue area, such as trade or the environment. These frameworks provide a structure for interaction that goes beyond simple ad-hoc cooperation, helping to stabilize expectations and reduce the potential for conflict. They are essential components of global governance, enabling states to manage problems.

65. (A) E.H. Carr - Republican Liberalism
The scholar mentioned is actually one of the most prominent critics of early liberal thought and is considered a foundational figure in the realist tradition. His work challenged the utopian belief in a natural harmony of interests between states and emphasized the importance of power. Other scholars in the list are correctly associated with various branches of liberal theory, including institutionalism and commercialism.

66. (B) Transnational relations between individuals, groups, and societies.
This perspective argues that international relations are not just the domain of governments, but are fundamentally shaped by the interactions between individuals, groups, and societies across national borders. These non-state ties create a sense of community and shared identity that can mitigate conflict and promote cooperation. By focusing on the social fabric that connects nations, this approach provides a holistic understanding.

67. (B) Commercial Liberalism
This case demonstrates how economic engagement can be used as a tool to reduce political and military tensions. By creating mutual benefits and increasing the costs of conflict, trade agreements can shift the incentives of states away from aggression and toward cooperation. This real-world application illustrates the central argument that economic interdependence is a powerful force for peace in the international system.

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68. (C) Immanuel Kant
This seminal essay outlines the conditions necessary for a lasting peace among nations, including the establishment of republican governments and a federation of free states. The author argued that these factors would create a framework where states would respect each other's rights and resolve disputes through law. His ideas remain highly influential and serve as the philosophical foundation for modern liberal thought.

69. (B) It posits that democracies are more peaceful with each other.
This theory focuses on how the internal political structure of a state influences its external behavior. It posits that democratic nations share common norms and institutional constraints that make them more likely to resolve their differences through negotiation and compromise. While they may still go to war with non-democratic states, the relationship between democracies is characterized by a unique zone of peace.

70. (B) Shaping preferences of others through attraction.
This concept describes a state's ability to achieve its goals in international relations not through

coercion or payment, but by being attractive to others. It relies on the appeal of a nation's culture, political values, and foreign policies. By winning hearts and minds, a state can influence global agendas and build coalitions without having to rely solely on military or economic force.

71. (C) Covert interventions by democracies.
While the theory holds that democracies do not engage in open warfare with one another, critics point to instances where democratic states have secretly undermined the governments of other democracies. These actions suggest that the norms of peace may not always extend to more clandestine forms of competition. Such cases challenge the absolute nature of the theory and prompt more nuanced discussions.

72. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
Liberal institutionalists recognize that the fear of being exploited is a significant barrier to international cooperation. They argue that organizations can address this issue by providing mechanisms for monitoring state behavior, sharing information, and coordinating sanctions against those who violate agreements. By increasing the transparency and costs of non-compliance, institutions make it more rational for self-interested states to honor their commitments.

73. (B) They foster global society and pressure states.
From a liberal perspective, non-governmental organizations are vital actors that link societies across borders and advocate for common global values. They can influence international politics by providing expertise, monitoring government behavior, and mobilizing public opinion to pressure states into adopting new norms. Their activities contribute to the development of a global civil society that challenges the traditional dominance of the sovereign state.

74. (C) Repeated interactions make cooperation rational.
This theory uses rational choice logic to explain that when states interact with each other over a long period, they begin to recognize the benefits of maintaining a reputation for reliability. This shadow of the future makes it in their own interest to cooperate, as long-term gains outweigh the advantages of cheating. Institutions help to facilitate these repeated interactions and stabilize expectations.

75. (B) Liberal Institutionalism
The process of European integration is often cited as the most successful example of how states can overcome historical rivalries through deep economic and political cooperation. By building shared institutions and creating a common market, the nations involved have transformed their relationships from conflict to a high degree of mutual dependence. This case perfectly illustrates the power of international regimes to reshape interests.

76. (B) Latin America
This theoretical framework emerged in the mid-20th century as scholars in this region sought to explain why their nations remained underdeveloped despite participating in the global economy. They argued that the international system is structured in a way that benefits wealthy, industrialized nations at the expense of poorer countries. This perspective challenged modernization theories and highlighted the impact of unequal trade relations.

77. (A) 1, 2 and 3 only
This approach analyzes the global economy as a single unit divided into different tiers based on their level of development and role in the international division of labor. It describes how the dominant core regions exploit the resources and labor of the periphery, while the semi-periphery serves as a middle ground. The system is dynamic, allowing for potential mobility of states.

78. (B) The periphery is trapped in underdevelopment.
According to this perspective, the relationship between different parts of the global economy is inherently exploitative and unequal. The core nations utilize their economic and political power to maintain a system that extracts wealth and resources from the periphery. This structural disadvantage makes it extremely difficult for poorer countries to achieve sustainable development, as their economies meet the core's needs.

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79. (C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
These thinkers have contributed to a rich tradition of critical analysis that focuses on the role of class, power, and ideology in the international system. Their works explore how global economic structures maintain inequality and how dominant groups use institutions and culture to legitimize their authority. Each provides a unique lens for understanding the structural challenges that prevent equitable order.

80. (A) It relies entirely on military force and physical coercion.
This concept describes a form of dominance that goes beyond simple physical coercion to include the manufacturing of consent among the governed. It involves the use of institutions, media, and education to promote an ideology that serves the ruling group while appearing universal. Consequently, hegemony is maintained through a complex balance of both power and intellectual leadership, rather than through force.

81. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Marxist analysts argue that the inherent logic of capitalism leads to the concentration of wealth and power in a few core nations. This process results in an uneven distribution of benefits, as the economies of peripheral countries are structured to support capital accumulation elsewhere. The structural nature of this exploitation means that inequality is a fundamental feature of the global capitalist system.

82. (B) An alliance of material forces and ideologies.
This term refers to a powerful alignment of different social and political groups that is held together by a shared worldview and common interests. It represents the foundation upon which a particular social order and its associated form of hegemony are built. Understanding these configurations is essential for analyzing how dominant groups maintain their power and how counter-hegemonic movements can emerge.

83. (A) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
This critical tradition is characterized by its skepticism of traditional social science methods and its focus on the liberating potential of human reason. It investigates how cultural and ideological structures serve to reinforce domination and seeks to uncover the ways in which individuals can be freed. A key insight is that all theory is rooted in specific social and political interests.

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84. (C) Anarchic balance of military power
These theories primarily emphasize the importance of economic structures, class conflict, and the exploitative nature of global capitalism. They are concerned with how the international system produces and reproduces inequality and the ways in which dominant groups maintain their authority. While they acknowledge the state and military, these are seen as secondary to the underlying material conditions and class struggles.

85. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
This distinction highlights two different ways of approaching the study of international relations. One perspective takes the existing system as given and focuses on making it work more effectively within its own rules. The other perspective calls the fundamental foundations of the system into question and seeks to understand the historical processes that created it. This approach aims for human emancipation.

86. (A) Overaccumulation of capital causes expansion.
This influential theory argued that as capitalist economies reach maturity, they produce more capital than can be profitably invested at home. This leads to a drive for expansion into foreign territories to find new markets, resources, and investment opportunities. Consequently, imperialism is seen as a necessary stage of capitalist development, resulting in competition and conflict between major industrialized powers globally.

87. (A) 1, 3, 2, 4
The development of this critical tradition has evolved from foundational analyses of domestic class struggle to theories of global expansion and contemporary studies of cultural hegemony. It began with 19th-century thinkers, followed by accounts of the competitive nature of imperialism. Later, scholars in the Global South explored structural underdevelopment, while

recent theorists have investigated the role of ideas and institutions.

88. (A) V.I. Lenin - Imperialism
This political leader and theorist provided a central contribution to the understanding of how capitalism drives international conflict. His work linked the economic needs of industrialized nations to the pursuit of colonial expansion and the rivalry between great powers. Other thinkers mentioned are associated with different concepts, such as the division of the world into core and periphery or systemic order.

89. (B) States acting as a buffer in the capitalist system.
Within the world-systems framework, these states occupy a middle position, possessing both core-like and periphery-like economic characteristics. They play a crucial role in stabilizing the global system by providing a path for potential mobility and acting as a cushion. This intermediate tier helps to prevent the system from polarizing into two hostile camps and allows for complex global interaction.

90. (D) End of History - Immanuel Wallerstein
The scholar mentioned is actually known for his theory of long-term economic cycles and the structure of the world-system, rather than for the idea that historical development has reached its final stage. The concept of the triumph of liberal democracy is associated with a different theorist. Other pairs are correctly matched with their respective contributions, including cultural hegemony and violence.

91. (B) The freeing of people from physical constraints.
In this framework, security is redefined not just as the protection of the state, but as the liberation of individuals and groups from the various forces that limit their freedom. This includes overcoming physical threats as well as social and political structures that perpetuate oppression. The ultimate goal is to create conditions where all people have the opportunity to realize potential.

92. (B) Debt is used to maintain peripheral subordination.
From this perspective, the persistent financial obligations of developing nations are seen as a tool that locks them into a position of weakness within the global economy. The structural requirements of debt repayment often force these countries to prioritize the interests of international lenders over their own development needs. Consequently, the debt crisis is interpreted as a mechanism for reproducing exploitation.

93. (B) Robert Cox
This statement captures a fundamental insight of critical theory, which argues that no academic work is truly neutral or objective. Instead, all theories are rooted in specific social and political contexts and serve to support or challenge particular interests. By uncovering underlying purposes, scholars can better understand how knowledge is used to maintain power and identify opportunities for creating more justice.

94. (B) The TCC shares interests in maintaining global capitalism.
In this neo-Marxist perspective, the globalization of the economy has led to the emergence of a new elite whose interests transcend national boundaries. This group is composed of leaders from multinational corporations and state governments who are united by their common goal of preserving the global capitalist system. Their influence challenges the traditional state-centric view and highlights global class dynamics.

95. (B) Institutions that legitimize the economic base.
This concept refers to the various social, political, and cultural institutions—such as the state, law, and education—that are built upon and serve to support the underlying economic base. These elements work together to create a framework of ideas that justify the existing distribution of power. Understanding this relationship is essential for analyzing how dominant classes maintain their long-term authority.

96. (B) It assumes the nation-state is the only valid unit of analysis.
This theory takes a broad, systemic approach that analyzes the entire world-economy as the fundamental unit of inquiry, rather than focusing on individual nation-states in isolation. It explores how a global division of labor has emerged since the 16th century, creating a hierarchical structure. This perspective highlights

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the interconnectedness of all parts of the global system and economic processes.

97. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
These two theoretical perspectives share a focus on the importance of social factors in shaping global politics, but they have different primary goals. One investigates how shared ideas, identities, and norms define the interests and behavior of states. The other is more explicitly concerned with identifying and challenging oppressive structures. Together, they provide tools for analyzing social and normative foundations.

98. (B) It causes acceptance of dominant ideology.
This process works by saturating the daily life and consciousness of the working class with the values and worldview of the ruling elite. As a result, the existing social order is perceived as natural and even beneficial for everyone, rather than as a system of exploitation. This internalizing of ideology makes it difficult for marginalized groups to recognize their own interests.

99. (B) They integrate states into the capitalist system.
Critical scholars argue that international efforts to build peace and promote democracy are often a cover for expanding the reach of global capitalism. These programs focus on creating the institutional and legal conditions necessary for free markets and foreign investment, which can lead to new forms of inequality. From this perspective, peacebuilding is seen as reinforcing the dominance of core nations.

100. (D) Marxist/Critical Theory
This analysis focuses on how international legal frameworks are used to protect the economic interests of powerful corporations at the expense of human well-being in the Global South. It highlights the structural inequality built into the global trade system and the ways in which dominant nations use influence. This approach is characteristic of critical perspectives that seek to uncover exploitative outcomes.

101. (B) Edward Said
The work of this scholar is central to the development of the field, as it exposed the ways in which Western academic and cultural discourses have constructed a biased and inferior image of the East. By analyzing the relationship between knowledge and power, he demonstrated how these representations were used to justify imperial rule. His insights have profoundly influenced regional studies.

102. (A) 1, 2 and 4 only
This intellectual bias involves treating the Western historical experience as the universal model for all of humanity. It positions Europe and North America as the primary agents of historical change while viewing other societies as passive or lagging behind. Such a perspective often ignores the unique philosophies of non-Western cultures, leading to an incomplete understanding of global politics and social development.

103. (A) It implies a hierarchical and inclusive global order.
This ancient Chinese term, literally meaning all under heaven, describes a worldview that prioritizes harmony and integration within a centralized, yet expansive, political system. It suggests a more relational and inclusive approach to international order compared to the strict territorial sovereignty of the Westphalian model. Modern scholars use this concept to explore alternative, non-Western perspectives on global governance and cooperation.

104. (D) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
Different regions of the world have developed unique philosophical and political concepts that offer alternative ways of understanding human relations and global order. These range from ideas about universal harmony and community-based ethics to concentric models of power and the relationship with the natural world. Exploring these diverse perspectives is essential for building a truly global and inclusive academic discipline.

105. (B) It focuses on elite state leaders and major diplomatic treaties.
This academic movement, which originated among South Asian historians, seeks to recover the history and agency of marginalized groups who have been ignored by traditional elite-centered accounts. It focuses on the experiences of the subaltern—those at the bottom of the hierarchy—and investigates how they have shaped history. This approach challenges

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dominant narratives and provides an inclusive and democratic historical understanding.

106. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
There is a growing recognition that mainstream theoretical frameworks are heavily influenced by the specific historical and political experiences of the West. This bias often makes these models less effective for understanding the diverse realities of the Global South. Consequently, scholars are calling for the development of new approaches that incorporate local knowledge, leading to a more comprehensive global perspective.

107. (B) A discourse constructing the East as inferior.
This term refers to a pervasive system of ideas and representations through which the West has historically defined and dominated the East. By characterizing non-Western societies as irrational and stagnant, this discourse created a justification for colonial rule and established a relationship of authority. Analyzing these biased perceptions is crucial for deconstructing the enduring legacies of imperial power.

108. (A) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
This theoretical tradition occupies a middle ground, arguing that while the international system is anarchic, states nonetheless form a society based on shared interests, rules, and institutions. It emphasizes the importance of common values and the role of international law and diplomacy in maintaining order. By combining elements of different paradigms, this approach provides a nuanced account of interactions.

109. (C) Neoclassical Realism
While many emerging perspectives seek to center the experiences and knowledge of the Global South, some frameworks remain firmly rooted in traditional Western rationalist and structural traditions. These models focus on systemic variables and state-level processes to explain outcomes. In contrast, approaches like post-colonialism and subaltern studies explicitly challenge the Eurocentric foundations of the discipline and aim for diversity.

110. (A) Statement I only
The first term was originally a political label for nations seeking a path independent of the two major power blocs during the Cold War. The second term is a more contemporary and flexible indicator that refers to nations marginalized in the global political economy, regardless of geography. While there is overlap, the Global South is not limited by the equator.

111. (A) Decolonization and the legacies of colonial rule.
This academic field arose as a response to the profound changes brought about by the end of formal imperial rule. It investigates how the structures, cultures, and identities created during the colonial period continue to shape the political and social realities of the modern world. By focusing on the enduring power dynamics between the former colonizers and the colonized, this approach provides a critical lens.

112. (A) 3, 1, 4, 2
The history of non-Western challenges to global power spans from early successful anti-colonial uprisings to modern academic critiques of Western discourse. Key milestones include a landmark conference of Afro-Asian nations and the formation of a movement of states seeking autonomy during the Cold War. These events, along with groundbreaking intellectual works, have been instrumental in asserting Global South agency.

113. (B) Mandala - Southeast Asia
This ancient political model, which describes power as a series of concentric circles radiating from a central ruler, has been a significant influence on the historical development of statecraft in various parts of Asia. Other regional concepts, such as community-based ethics, provide alternative foundations for understanding social and political interactions. Together, these diverse intellectual traditions offer valuable global insights.

114. (B) Decentering European experience as the universal standard.
This term refers to the intellectual project of challenging the assumption that the Western historical and cultural experience is the universal standard for all of humanity. It involves

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recognizing that European models are themselves the product of specific local contexts. By treating Europe as one province among many, scholars can open up space for a more diverse engagement with history.

115. (A) Hedley Bull - Post-colonialism
The scholar mentioned is actually a central figure in the English School, which focuses on the concept of international society and the rules that govern state behavior. His work is distinct from the critical and deconstructive focus of post-colonial studies. Other scholars in the list are correctly associated with their respective contributions to the development of non-Western global perspectives.

116. (B) A group of states bound by a common set of rules.
This framework posits that although there is no world government, sovereign states recognize that they share certain common interests and are bound by a set of shared rules and institutions. These elements—such as international law, diplomacy, and the balance of power—create a degree of order and predictability. This perspective emphasizes that states are part of a social community.

117. (B) The Mandala Concept
This ancient model provides a unique lens for analyzing the strategic relationships and security dynamics of kingdoms in South and Southeast Asia. It views the political world as a series of overlapping spheres of influence, where a ruler's power is defined by their network of allies and rivals. This historical approach offers an alternative to modern Western theories and regional perspectives.

118. (A) Edward Said
This groundbreaking work challenged the biased representations of the Middle East and Asia in Western scholarship and art. The author argued that these depictions were not objective descriptions but rather a form of imaginative geography that served to justify imperial power. His critique has had a profound and lasting impact on the humanities, inspiring the development of post-colonial theory.

119. (B) Colonialism created structural disadvantages for the South.
This perspective argues that the current economic challenges faced by many nations in the Global South are the result of historical patterns of exploitation established during the colonial era. It posits that the international system was designed to benefit industrialized nations by locking poorer countries into specific roles. Overcoming these structural obstacles requires a fundamental transformation of the global political order.

120. (D) Sovereignty as the basis for maintaining order.
These two perspectives within the tradition differ on the potential for cooperation and the priority given to different values. One view emphasizes the importance of state sovereignty and the principle of non-interference as the essential foundations for maintaining global order among diverse nations. The other view suggests a more optimistic possibility for shared moral standards and collective human action.

121. (C) The Security Dilemma
While many emerging perspectives in this region draw on ancient philosophical concepts like relationality and moral leadership, they often distance themselves from the purely structural and conflict-oriented models of Western realism. These new approaches emphasize the importance of social ties, historical context, and the potential for harmony. Consequently, terms focusing on the inevitability of competition are associated with systemic theories.

122. (A) Statement I only
This emerging approach seeks to build a more inclusive discipline by integrating the diverse histories and knowledge of the entire world, rather than relying solely on Western experiences. It does not call for the total rejection of existing theories but aims to broaden the conversation. By valuing the agency of the Global South, it strives for a comprehensive understanding.

123. (D) Disciplinary boundaries were established by the West.
The formal academic study of global politics was largely shaped by Western institutions and historical experiences, which determined what was considered valid knowledge and appropriate

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methodology. As a result, the diverse intellectual traditions and practices of non-Western societies were often excluded or relegated to the status of objects. Overcoming this marginalization requires a fundamental rethinking of the field's foundational concepts.

124. (D) The solidarity and anti-colonialism of Afro-Asian nations.
This term encapsulates the sense of unity and shared purpose among newly independent nations in Asia and Africa as they sought to challenge the dominance of major power blocs during the Cold War. It emphasizes principles of self-determination, mutual respect, and non-interference, as well as economic cooperation. This historical movement laid the foundation for the assertion of Global South agency.

125. (B) A Non-Western/Global South agency approach.
This perspective focuses on the active role played by newly independent nations in shaping their own diplomatic destinies and challenging the bipolar structure of the international system. By refusing to align with either the East or the West, these states sought to create a new, independent voice that prioritized their own development needs. This approach highlights agency among marginalized actors.

126. (B) Halford Mackinder
This influential geopolitical thinker proposed that the interior of the Eurasian landmass was the strategic pivot of the world. He argued that any power that could control this vast region would be in a position to dominate the entire World Island and eventually the globe. His ideas emphasized the importance of land power in shaping the grand strategies of nations.

127. (A) 1, 2 and 3 only
States have historically utilized a variety of strategies to ensure that no single power becomes dominant enough to threaten the independence of others. These include forming alliances to counter rivals, increasing their own military strength, and establishing neutral zones to separate hostile powers. These mechanisms are designed to maintain a stable distribution of power, though they can lead to competition.

128. (B) Coastal fringes are key to controlling the World Island.
This geopolitical perspective argues that the most strategically important areas are the maritime edges of the Eurasian landmass, rather than its interior. It suggests that control of these coastal regions is essential for managing the global balance of power and preventing any single nation from dominating. This framework highlights the importance of combined land and sea power in statecraft.

129. (A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
These thinkers developed influential models that link a state's strategic position and potential for greatness to its physical geography. Their theories explore the relative advantages of land and sea power, the importance of controlling key strategic zones, and the organic relationship between a state and its territory. Each has provided a different lens for understanding the influence of the world.

130. (C) It asserts that land armies are obsolete and unnecessary.
This theory emphasizes the critical importance of naval strength for achieving national greatness and global influence. It argues that control of the seas is essential for protecting trade and projecting power over long distances. While it highlights the unique advantages of sea power, it does not suggest that land-based forces are unnecessary, as they remain vital for securing actual territory.

131. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
In an international system without a central authority, the primary concern of every state is its own survival and independence. A dominant hegemon poses a significant threat to this goal, as it could use overwhelming power to coerce other nations. Therefore, states naturally work to balance against any rising power to prevent hegemony and preserve the anarchic systemic structure.

132. (B) Building domestic capabilities to counter a threat.
This strategy involves a state increasing its own material strength to counter a perceived threat, rather than relying on external partnerships.

It can include military build-ups, economic development, and technological advancement. By enhancing its own resources, a state can improve its ability to deter aggression independently, which is often seen as a more reliable approach in a competitive environment.

133. (A) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
This field is based on the belief that the physical features of the world—such as mountains, oceans, and natural resources—are the primary determinants of a state's foreign policy and strategic goals. It emphasizes the importance of territorial expansion for survival and divides the globe into distinct zones. This perspective maintains that the fundamental spatial realities continue to shape international relations.

134. (C) Bandwagoning with a rising hegemon
Strategies for maintaining a stable distribution of power typically involve actions aimed at countering a rising threat, such as forming alliances, creating neutral buffer zones, or dividing rival resources. Joining forces with a dominant power, however, is a different strategic choice that can actually undermine the balance and contribute to hegemony. This behavior is often a response to extreme weakness.

135. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
These two approaches offer different perspectives on the relationship between geography and politics. One views physical features as objective realities that dictate the behavior of states. The other investigates how geopolitical concepts are constructed and used by leaders to justify their actions. Together, they provide a comprehensive understanding of both the material constraints and the ideological processes that shape them.

136. (B) The living space required by a state to survive and grow.
This term, originally developed in an organic theory of the state, suggests that a nation is like a living organism that must expand its territory to grow and survive. It was later adopted by political movements to justify aggressive conquest and the displacement of peoples. In its original form, it highlighted the link between geographic size and national health.

137. (C) Sea power is essential for national greatness.
This idea is the central tenet of the theory that links a nation's global influence to its control of the maritime commons. It emphasizes the importance of naval strength for protecting commerce and projecting power far from a state's home territory. Other geopolitical theories focus on the strategic importance of different regions, providing perspectives on the keys to global dominance.

138. (B) To preserve state independence and systemic anarchy.
The goal of this system is not to eliminate all conflict, but to ensure that the international environment remains one of competition between multiple sovereign entities. By preventing any single state from achieving hegemony, the balance protects the survival of each nation and prevents world government. This preservation of an anarchic structure is the best way to maintain state autonomy.

139. (D) Organic Theory of State - Alfred Thayer Mahan
The theory that views the state as a biological organism is associated with a different scholar who focused on the importance of land and territorial expansion. The scholar in the list is actually known for his work on the strategic value of maritime strength and historical development. Other pairs in the list are correctly matched with their foundational geopolitical theories.

140. (A) Relying on another state to deter a rising threat.
This strategic behavior occurs when a state attempts to avoid the costs and risks of confronting a rising rival by encouraging another nation to take the lead. It is often seen as a way for a state to maintain its own power while others weaken each other. This tactic can be effective but also carries the danger of failure.

141. (B) Mackinder's Heartland Theory
The persistent strategic value of this region is often analyzed using the idea that control over the gateway to the Eurasian interior is essential for global dominance. From this perspective, the competition for influence in Eastern Europe is seen as a modern manifestation of the struggle between land-based and sea-based powers.

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This geopolitical framework provides a lens for understanding conflict.

142. (B) Alfred Thayer Mahan
This naval officer and historian produced a seminal work that argued that maritime strength was the primary factor in the rise and fall of major nations. His analysis of historical conflicts emphasized the role of naval bases, commerce, and the control of strategic chokepoints. His ideas have had a profound impact on the development of naval strategy and grand strategies.

143. (B) It deconstructs geographical discourses used by elites.
This contemporary approach moves beyond the study of physical maps to investigate how political leaders use geographical ideas to frame the world and justify their policies. It explores how concepts like east and west are not neutral descriptions but tools of power. By deconstructing these narratives, scholars can reveal the underlying interests and ideological goals that drive international strategic thought.

144. (B) A power relying on regional allies to check threats.
This approach involves a major power avoiding permanent military commitments in a particular region, instead using its influence to support local partners who can counter any rising threat. The state only intervenes directly when the local balance of power is on the verge of collapsing. This strategy allows the major power to protect its interests while minimizing its own costs.

145. (D) The state functions as a biological organism that must expand its borders.
This geopolitical theorist is known for his focus on the strategic importance of the Eurasian coastal regions and his belief that the United States must actively engage in the world to maintain a favorable balance. His ideas emphasized the realistic and strategic requirements of national security rather than an organic view. Other thinkers were more concerned with the organismic territorial survival.

146. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
These two strategies represent different ways of countering the influence of a dominant power. One involves the traditional tools of military expansion and formal alliances to create a direct material challenge. The other utilizes non-military means, such as international institutions and diplomatic coalitions, to constrain the hegemon. Both approaches are used by states to manage the challenges of unparalleled national dominance.

147. (A) Physical geography causes specific policy orientations.
The central premise of this field is that the permanent physical features of a state's environment—such as its location, topography, and access to resources—shape its fundamental security interests and strategic choices. These factors provide the context within which leaders must operate and impose limits. This perspective argues that geographic realities of the state remain a constant and powerful influence.

148. (B) Geography studies effects; geopolitics prescribes policy.
While both fields focus on the relationship between spatial factors and political processes, they have different primary objectives. One is generally more descriptive and analytical, investigating how geography influences the development of states. The other is more explicitly strategic and policy-oriented, focusing on how geographic factors can be used to achieve national goals. Together, they provide a comprehensive spatial understanding.

149. (B) Spykman's Rimland Theory
This geopolitical framework argued that preventing any single power from controlling the coastal regions of Eurasia was essential for global security. This idea directly informed the American strategy during the Cold War of building alliances and military presence around the edges of the Soviet bloc. By focusing on these strategic areas, the United States sought to manage global power.

150. (B) Charles Kindleberger
This economist and historian proposed that a stable and open international economic order requires a single dominant power to provide leadership and enforce the rules. He argued that the absence of such a leader was a primary cause of the Great Depression and global instability. This theory highlights the importance of

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hegemons in providing global public goods that benefit everyone.

151. (A) 1 and 4 only
In an international order dominated by two great powers, the competition is characterized by a high degree of structural tension and frequent indirect conflicts. These superpowers often use minor states as proxies to advance their interests without engaging in a direct and potentially catastrophic war. While alliances can be stable, the primary feature is the intense rivalry between two poles.

152. (B) It describes post-Cold War US global dominance.
This term was coined to describe the period following the collapse of the Soviet Union, during which the United States possessed unparalleled military, economic, and cultural influence. It suggests a temporary state of affairs where a single nation operates without a peer competitor on the global stage. While this dominance was significant, analysts debate its permanence and the potential return.

153. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
The distribution of power in the international system can take several forms, each with its own implications for stability and state behavior. These range from a world dominated by a single hegemon to systems with two rival superpowers or multiple major powers balancing each other. More recently, analysts have described diffused orders reflecting increasing complexity and interconnectedness of contemporary global politics.

154. (C) Waltz argued it is stable due to threat identification.
Most neorealist theorists argue that a system with multiple major powers is inherently more unstable and prone to conflict than one with only two poles. They emphasize that the fluidity of alliances and the difficulty of identifying threats in a multipolar world increase the likelihood of miscalculation. In contrast, they view the simplicity and predictability of a bipolar order as stable.

155. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Structural realists argue that when only two states hold the vast majority of power, they are forced to focus their attention almost exclusively on each other. This reduces the uncertainty and potential for surprise that are common in more complex systems. By relying on their own resources for security, the superpowers are better able to maintain a stable global balance.

156. (B) Unipolarity is material; Hegemony implies leadership.
These two terms describe different aspects of a state's dominance in the international system. One refers to the objective distribution of material capabilities, such as military strength and economic size, which places a single nation ahead of rivals. The other describes a more complex form of influence that includes the ability to lead, set agendas, and gain the consent of others.

157. (C) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
To accurately assess the distribution of power in the world, researchers look at a wide range of factors that contribute to a state's influence. These include its economic output, military expenditures, and technological capabilities, as well as its demographic size and cultural and diplomatic reach. Together, these indicators provide a comprehensive picture of a nation's ability to project power and influence.

158. (C) Success of frequent and intense balancing coalitions.
In a world with only one dominant state, it is extremely difficult for other nations to successfully unite and create a significant challenge to its authority. The overwhelming material advantage of the unipole allows it to act as a global leader and provide public goods while deterring potential rivals. While some soft balancing may occur, the system features no peer competitor.

159. (B) Statement II only
An international system with three major powers is often considered to be highly unstable because of the constant potential for two states to form an alliance against the third. This dynamic creates a situation of perpetual insecurity, as each power

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fears being the one that is marginalized. This instability and the shifting nature of strategic partnerships make tripolar worlds prone to conflict.

160. (B) An order with multiple centers and no strict hierarchy.
This concept describes a global order where power is diffused among a variety of actors, including traditional nation-states, regional organizations, and even non-state entities. It suggests a more complex and decentralized system than traditional models of unipolarity. In a polycentric world, influence is often issue-specific, and no single power can dominate every aspect of international relations, leading to multifaceted environments.

161. (B) Bipolarity - The Cold War (1945-1991)
The half-century following the Second World War provides the classic example of an international system dominated by two rival superpowers. This era was characterized by an intense ideological and strategic competition that divided the world into two major camps and shaped the behavior of every other state. Other historical periods have featured different distributions of power and various levels of influence.

162. (B) The way power is distributed within the system.
This term refers to the structural arrangement of the international system based on the number of great powers that possess the majority of global influence. It is a fundamental concept for understanding how the system functions and how states interact. By analyzing the concentration of material capabilities, researchers can classify different orders and develop theories about stability and the likelihood of conflict.

163. (D) Karl Marx - Bipolarity
The thinker mentioned is primarily known for his analysis of class struggle and the inevitable transition from capitalism to socialism, rather than for a preference for any particular distribution of power between nation-states. His work focuses on different levels of analysis than the systemic structural theories of the other scholars listed. These theorists are correctly associated with their arguments for systemic stability.

164. (B) Power is dispersed among three or more equal powers.
This type of international order is characterized by the presence of several major states that are relatively equal in their material capabilities and strategic influence. In such a system, no single nation can dominate the others, and order is maintained through a fluid and shifting process of balancing. While some argue this leads to flexibility, others emphasize the increased risk of miscalculation.

165. (B) Emerging Multipolarity / Polycentrism
Many contemporary analysts argue that the era of unparalleled dominance by a single power is ending, replaced by a more complex world with multiple centers of influence. This order is characterized by the continued strength of the United States alongside the rapid rise of new economic and military powers. This shift toward a more diffused distribution of power creates a more unpredictable environment.

166. (B) Charles Krauthammer
This political commentator and columnist used the term to describe the unique geopolitical situation following the end of the Cold War. He argued that the United States had emerged as the sole global superpower with the ability and responsibility to shape a new international order. His analysis emphasized the unprecedented concentration of power in a single nation and sparked widespread academic debate.

167. (B) It recognizes diffused power among regional actors.
This concept describes a global system where influence is not concentrated in one or two states but is spread across a variety of national and regional centers. It acknowledges the increasing importance of local powers and organizations in managing their own affairs. In a polycentric world, global governance requires a more complex and inclusive approach that accounts for the diverse interests involved.

168. (B) A rising power approaches parity with a hegemon.
This theory suggests that the most dangerous period in international relations occurs when a rapidly growing state begins to rival the strength of the dominant power. As the gap between them

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narrows, the rising power may be inclined to challenge the existing order, while the established hegemon may feel compelled to use force. This structural tension causes major systemic wars.

169. (C) The United States
Before the First World War, the global balance of power was primarily centered on a group of major European states that competed for influence and territory. While some other nations were developing significant economic and military strength, they had not yet emerged as primary actors on the global strategic stage. The eventual entry of new powers would fundamentally change the system's character.

170. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
There are two major perspectives on the durability of a world with only one dominant state. One view argues that the unipole's overwhelming strength deters any successful challenge, leading to long periods of peace. The opposing view suggests that the hegemon inevitably overextends its resources and that its actions will prompt other nations to unite and balance against its unilateral authority.

171. (B) Uneven growth allowing rising powers to build strength.
The shift from a system dominated by a single nation to one with multiple major powers is primarily driven by the long-term changes in the relative strength of states. As some nations experience more rapid economic and technological development than others, they are able to build up their military capabilities. This process eventually erodes the hegemon's advantage and leads to balanced competition.

172. (B) Miscalculation and shifting alliances lead to war.
Structural realists maintain that a system with many major powers is inherently more dangerous because it is more difficult to accurately identify threats and predict the behavior of others. The fluid nature of partnerships and the complex interactions between multiple actors increase the risk that a state will make a strategic error. This uncertainty makes maintaining a stable balance highly challenging.

173. (C) Unipolarity
The decade following the collapse of the Soviet Union provides the most prominent example of an international order where one nation possessed a level of military, economic, and political influence that far surpassed any potential rival. During this period, the United States operated as a global leader and rule-setter, demonstrating the unique capabilities and challenges of sole superpower status.

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174. (B) Alignment is highly rigid with few defection effects.
In an international order divided between two rival superpowers, the pressure for other states to choose a side is intense. Once an alliance is formed, it tends to be very stable, as the costs of switching sides are high and the benefits of remaining under protection are significant. This rigidity simplifies global politics by creating two clearly defined camps.

175. (B) Peace of Westphalia (1648)
This historical agreement ended decades of religious conflict in Europe and established the principles of territorial integrity and non-interference. It recognized the right of rulers to exercise supreme authority over their own territory and people, effectively creating the modern model of the sovereign nation-state. This framework became the basis for the international legal order, defining the state as fundamental.

176. (D) 1, 2, 3 and 4
International law defines a state as a political entity that possesses a permanent population, a clearly defined territory, and an effective government. Additionally, it must have the capacity to engage in formal relations with other sovereign nations. Together, these four characteristics are essential for an entity to be recognized as a full and independent member of the community of sovereign states.

177. (B) It asserts absolute authority over territory and people.
This central concept of international relations refers to a state's supreme and independent power to govern within its own borders. It implies that there is no higher authority that can legally dictate the internal or external policies of a sovereign nation without its consent. This principle is the

cornerstone of the modern international system, ensuring each state is a legal equal.

178. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
The international system includes a diverse range of political entities that vary in their size, capabilities, and stability. Some states are recognized as sovereign but lack the internal capacity to govern effectively, while others are situated in strategic locations between more powerful rivals. Additionally, some nations have very small populations but still possess full legal status. These types shape regional politics.

179. (C) It established the authority of the Pope over monarchs.
This landmark historical agreement actually moved in the opposite direction, shifting power away from religious authorities and toward secular monarchs. It established the principle that each ruler had the right to determine the religion and laws of their own territory, effectively ending the idea of a single unified political authority. This change was a fundamental step in the modern state system.

180. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Traditional academic approaches focus on the nation-state because it is the only entity that possesses a unique set of powers and legal rights. States have the ultimate authority to maintain order and defend themselves through the use of force, and they are the primary subjects of international law. This unparalleled status and capacity make the state the essential analytical unit.

181. (B) Is recognized as sovereign but lacks domestic capacity.
This term describes political entities that possess all the formal legal rights of statehood in the international system but are unable to provide basic services or maintain order within their own borders. They often depend on the support of other states and international organizations to survive. This situation highlights the gap between formal legal status and actual government authority and control.

182. (A) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
While the principles of non-interference and supreme authority remain central to international law, they are increasingly being tested by global forces. The flow of capital across borders, the rise of international human rights norms, and the emergence of transnational threats like terrorism and environmental crises all limit the ability of individual states to act independently. These challenges force cooperative authority.

183. (C) Democratic government
Historically, the international legal requirements for statehood have focused on material and functional characteristics rather than the specific type of political regime. As long as an entity has a permanent population, a defined territory, an effective government, and the ability to conduct foreign relations, it can be recognized. While many contemporary norms emphasize democracy, these are not formal legal prerequisites for recognition.

184. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
These two aspects of power together define the full status of a state in the modern world. One refers to the supreme authority a government exercises over all individuals and groups within its geographic borders. The other refers to the state's independence from outside control and its recognition as a legal equal. Both forms of authority are essential for a state's functions.

185. (B) The perceived fundamental goals of state survival.
This term refers to the core objectives that guide a state's foreign policy and ensure its security, prosperity, and status in the international system. It is based on the belief that every sovereign nation has certain fundamental needs that must be protected, regardless of the government in power. This concept provides a common framework for understanding how states prioritize their actions.

186. (A) Fragile State - Somalia
The international system includes nations that are unable to perform the basic functions of a state, such as maintaining order, protecting borders, or providing essential services. These entities often suffer from internal conflict and a lack of effective authority. Other types of actors mentioned in the list, such as global powers or

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strategic buffer zones, are correctly matched with roles.

187. (B) A sovereign state whose citizens are relatively homogeneous.
This term describes a political entity that combines the legal status of a sovereign state with a sense of shared cultural or ethnic identity among its population. It represents the ideal model of modern political organization, where the boundaries of the state align with the nation. This concept highlights the powerful role of nationalism in shaping the legitimacy of the international system.

188. (C) Supranationalism - States retaining absolute veto power.
This concept describes a form of international organization where member states voluntarily transfer some of their authority to a higher, independent body that can make decisions binding on all participants. This stands in contrast to systems where states maintain complete control. Other terms in the list correctly describe different aspects of power and authority, including actual control versus legal right.

189. (B) Strategies and goals guiding interactions with others.
This term refers to the comprehensive plan and actions a government develops to manage its relationships with other states and international actors. It is designed to protect and advance the national interest, which includes ensuring security, promoting economic growth, and upholding national values. By defining its objectives, a state can navigate the complexities of the global system and respond to emerging challenges.

190. (A) Unitary rational actor pursuing security or power.
Most traditional theories approach international politics by treating states as coherent entities that make decisions based on a logical calculation of their own interests. Even when a state's behavior is viewed as threatening or non-compliant, it is often analyzed as a deliberate strategy to enhance its own security. This assumption allows researchers to apply systematic frameworks to understand state actions.

191. (B) Kenneth Waltz
This influential theorist made the assumption of state rationality a central component of his structural model of international politics. He argued that the anarchic environment forces all states, regardless of their internal characteristics, to act in predictable ways to ensure their own survival. By treating the state as a single unit, he provided a powerful framework for analyzing the distribution of power.

192. (B) They possess legal sovereignty and voting equality.
In the modern international legal order, even the smallest nations are recognized as full and independent members of the community of states. They have the same formal rights as the largest powers, including the right to govern their own territory and to have a single, equal vote in international organizations. This principle of legal equality ensures all sovereign entities have voices.

193. (B) The ability to implement policies and enforce laws.
This term refers to the actual power and effectiveness of a government in achieving its goals and maintaining order within its territory. It includes the ability to collect taxes, provide public goods, and ensure that its rules are respected by society. A high degree of capacity is essential for a state to be truly sovereign and respond effectively to systemic challenges.

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194. (C) Global management of multi-planetary colonies.
Historically, the primary responsibilities of a state have been focused on its own territory and population. These include protecting against external aggression, maintaining internal law and order, and providing the infrastructure and services necessary for a stable society. While some states have expanded their influence globally, their core identity and legal status are defined by their authority over a specific geography.

195. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
These two perspectives offer different views on the impact of increasing global interconnectedness on the power of the nation-state. One argues that the rise of global markets is making traditional sovereignty obsolete. The opposing view

maintains that states remain the most powerful actors and have successfully adapted their roles to navigate the modern world. Together, these arguments highlight globalization debates.

196. (B) The proliferation of new sovereign states.
When a group successfully withdraws from an existing nation and establishes its own independent government, it adds to the number of separate political units in the global arena. This process can change the regional balance of power and lead to new patterns of diplomatic and economic interaction. The emergence of new states highlights the enduring appeal of national self-determination globally.

197. (B) They play crucial roles in multilateral diplomacy.
While they may not have the overwhelming strength of superpowers, these states often play an important role as mediators and rule-builders in the international system. They frequently work through international organizations to address common global problems, such as human rights and trade. Their activities help bridge the gap between major powers and the world, contributing to a more stable order.

198. (B) An entity with de facto statehood but limited recognition.
This entity functions as a fully independent and sovereign state in almost every practical sense, possessing a defined territory, a permanent population, and an effective government. However, because of political and historical reasons, it lacks formal legal recognition from many other nations and from the most important international organizations. This case illustrates the complex relationship between empirical power and legal recognition.

199. (B) A community claiming the monopoly on legitimate force.
This classic sociologically-based description emphasizes that the defining characteristic of a state is its unique authority to use physical coercion to maintain order and enforce its laws. In a given territory, only the government has the recognized right to possess and use military and police force. This focus on authority provides a way of distinguishing the state from other organizations.

200. (B) International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs)
This term refers to private, non-profit groups that operate in multiple countries to address issues of common concern, such as human rights or environmental protection. They are independent of any single government and rely on voluntary contributions to influence international politics and shape global norms. Their activities contribute to a global civil society and represent interests that transcend traditional national boundaries.

201. (A) 1, 2 and 3 only
The international arena is populated by a wide range of influential groups that are not part of any formal government structure. These include large businesses with global operations, networks of activists working to change international rules, and even armed groups that challenge control of territory. While intergovernmental organizations are also important, they are composed of sovereign states and are thus distinct.

202. (B) They influence state policies and control resources.
These large corporate entities possess significant economic power that they can use to shape the decisions of governments and the rules of the international system. By controlling vital resources and making decisions about production across borders, they can affect the prosperity and security of multiple nations. Their activities challenge the traditional state-centric view and highlight the importance of private actors.

203. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
Global politics involves a diverse set of participants, each with its own goals, resources, and legal status. These range from organizations created by sovereign states for common action to private corporations seeking profit and non-profit groups advocating for specific causes. Additionally, some non-state actors use violence to challenge the order. Understanding these categories is essential for analyzing international relations.

204. (A) They are established by treaties between sovereign states.
These groups are fundamentally different from intergovernmental organizations because they

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are formed by private individuals or associations rather than by sovereign states through formal international agreements. They operate in the space between national governments and citizens, working to address global issues through advocacy. Their independence and reliance on non-governmental funding allow them to challenge state policies on the global stage.

205. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Theoretical models that focus on the multifaceted ties between societies argue that the traditional dominance of the state is being eroded by the rise of other participants. Non-governmental groups and private corporations are increasingly able to set international agendas and manage cross-border issues once reserved for national governments. This shift reflects a move toward a more decentralized global system.

206. (B) Using information and pressure to promote norm changes.
These groups influence global politics not through material force or economic power, but by framing issues in new ways and mobilizing public opinion to demand change. They share expert information, highlight government failures, and build coalitions across borders to promote the adoption of new international standards. Their power lies in their ability to use moral persuasion to change state behavior.

207. (A) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
The activities of these armed groups have significant consequences for the security and stability of the international system. They force states to rethink their national strategies and challenge the traditional monopoly on the legitimate use of violence. By utilizing global communication tools and operating across porous borders, they are able to recruit followers and conduct operations on a worldwide scale.

208. (B) The World Health Organization (WHO)
The category of participants in global politics that are not part of any formal government structure includes a wide variety of non-profit organizations and advocacy groups. However, some entities are explicitly created by sovereign states through international treaties to facilitate cooperation on common problems. These organizations are an extension of the state system and are thus distinct from non-governmental actors.

209. (A) Statement I only
These networks of professionals and experts play a crucial role in shaping international policy by providing authoritative knowledge on complex issues. They share common beliefs about cause and effect and are united by their commitment to a particular set of values and policy goals. Their influence comes from recognized expertise and their ability to help governments navigate complicated technical problems.

210. (B) An entity created by treaty to work on common interests.
This type of organization is a formal association of sovereign states that have agreed to work together to achieve common goals. They are established through legal agreements and provide a permanent structure for cooperation on issues ranging from trade to the environment. These organizations are essential components of global governance, enabling nations to manage shared problems in an interconnected world.

211. (A) MNC - Profit maximization
Each type of participant in global politics is driven by a different set of fundamental goals. Large corporate entities with international operations are primarily focused on increasing their financial returns across various markets. Other types of groups, such as non-profit organizations or state-created organizations, have different objectives, such as promoting social values, providing collective security, or facilitating regional international cooperation.

212. (B) They create multiple layers of authority alongside states.
The rise of diverse participants in international affairs has led to a more complex system where the traditional power of the state is shared and contested. Non-governmental groups and private organizations now play a significant role in setting rules and managing global issues. This change has created a multifaceted environment for global governance, where influence is spread across a variety of actors.

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213. (C) Google - Epistemic Community
While a large technology company possesses significant resources and technical knowledge, its primary identity and goal are different from a network of experts dedicated to a specific policy area. Epistemic communities are defined by their shared values and their role in providing information to solve common problems. Other groups in the list are correctly matched with their standard IR classifications.

214. (B) An enterprise that owns production in other countries.
This type of business entity is characterized by its ability to manage and control productive assets in multiple nations. Unlike companies that simply trade across borders, these corporations are deeply integrated into the economies of the various countries where they operate. Their global reach and economic power allow them to influence the policies of governments and shape the international order.

215. (B) Soft power and normative influence.
This strategy illustrates how non-governmental organizations can influence the behavior of states without the use of material force or economic pressure. By highlighting government failures and mobilizing public opinion, these groups can create significant social and political costs for those who violate international standards. This form of power relies on the appeal of universal values and the ability to change norms.

216. (A) Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye
These influential theorists developed a framework that challenged the traditional state-centric view of global politics by highlighting the importance of interactions that occur outside of formal government channels. Their work emphasized the role of diverse actors—including corporations and individuals—in shaping international outcomes. This perspective has been essential for understanding the multiple layers of authority and various forces driving change.

217. (B) They challenge state authority through armed force.
These groups represent a direct challenge to the fundamental principle that only the sovereign state has the legitimate right to use physical coercion within its territory. By taking up arms to achieve political or social goals, they undermine the security of national governments and create systemic instability. Their presence highlights the limitations of state power and the persistent role of non-state violence.

218. (B) Groups operating across borders to promote interests.
This concept refers to the vibrant and diverse network of non-governmental organizations, social movements, and individual activists who work together to address global problems and advocate for common values. It represents a space for political engagement that exists outside formal state structures. By facilitating cooperation among people from different nations, this transnational network provides an alternative source of global influence.

219. (C) A primary goal of violent territorial expansion.
These groups are defined by their expertise and their role in providing authoritative knowledge to help solve technical and social problems, rather than by a desire for power. They share common beliefs about cause and effect and are united by their commitment to a specific set of policy goals. Their influence in international relations comes from their recognized status as experts.

220. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
These two major theoretical traditions offer different perspectives on the importance of participants that are not part of any formal government. One view emphasizes that states remain the most powerful actors and that all other groups are ultimately secondary and dependent on state support. The opposing view argues that these non-state entities possess independent agency and can effectively pressure powerful nations.

221. (A) Technological progress empowered actors to organize globally.
The rapid advancement of communication and information systems has fundamentally changed the way that individuals and groups can organize and interact across national borders. These tools have made it much easier for non-governmental organizations and social movements to share information and reach a global audience. This increased capacity has significantly enhanced the

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influence of non-state actors in contemporary international politics.

222. (B) They fund research and shape development agendas.
These private organizations play a significant role in international development and global governance by providing the resources and intellectual leadership necessary to address complex social problems. They influence global policy by supporting specific research projects and promoting new ideas. Their activities help to set international agendas and shape the way that governments approach issues such as public health and education.

223. (B) A transnational violent non-state actor.
This case study illustrates how some armed groups operate as decentralized networks that transcend national boundaries and are not tied to any single government. Their ability to organize and conduct operations across multiple countries poses a major challenge to the traditional state-centered security order and highlights the threat of non-state violence. Understanding these complex structures is essential for developing security strategies.

224. (B) They represent the privatization of military services.
The rise of these corporate entities represents a significant shift in the way that states and other actors manage security and conflict. By providing a wide range of services—from logistics to direct armed protection—on a commercial basis, they have become important participants in contemporary international relations. This trend raises questions about the state's traditional monopoly on the legitimate use of force.

225. (B) Nations marginalized in the global political economy.
This term is used to describe a diverse group of countries that share a common experience of historical disadvantage and contemporary marginalization within the international system. It moves beyond simple geography to highlight the enduring structural inequalities between the wealthy, industrialized nations and the rest of the world. By focusing on shared challenges, the concept provides a framework for analyzing perspectives.

226. (A) 1, 2 and 4 only
This academic field is characterized by its use of a wide range of methods to achieve a deep and nuanced understanding of specific geographic regions. These include long-term firsthand observation and engagement with local communities, as well as the study of historical records and mastery of languages. By combining these approaches, researchers can move beyond abstract models and provide comprehensive accounts.

227. (B) It involves comparing phenomena across distinct regions.
This approach involves systematically analyzing and contrasting the experiences and developments of different geographic zones to identify common patterns and unique differences. By looking beyond a single area, researchers can gain a broader perspective on the various forces that shape regional and global politics. This method is essential for building a comparative understanding of international relations and social life.

228. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
Different theoretical frameworks offer unique and valuable lenses for analyzing the diverse political and social realities of various regions. These range from focusing on strategic competition for power and security to investigating the role of shared ideas and identities and the enduring impact of imperial rule. Additionally, some approaches emphasize the importance of economic and institutional cooperation in regional outcomes.

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229. (C) It treats indigenous knowledge as the absolute standard of universal truth.
This intellectual bias involves taking the Western historical and cultural experience as the universal model for all of humanity, which often leads to the marginalization of the unique perspectives of non-Western societies. It positions European models as the benchmark for development and views other regions as deficient. Overcoming this bias requires rethinking the field's core concepts and valuing diverse intellectual traditions.

230. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
These two academic fields are deeply interconnected and mutually beneficial. One

provides the broad theoretical frameworks and general laws that help to explain global patterns, while the other provides the rich, context-specific empirical data essential for testing and refining those models. Together, they offer a more comprehensive understanding of the world, ensuring that general theories are grounded in regional realities.

231. (B) How identities and cultural norms construct interests.
This perspective argues that the strategic goals and behaviors of states in a particular region are not just determined by material factors like military strength, but are also shaped by shared ideas, historical experiences, and cultural values. By investigating the social and normative foundations of regional politics, researchers can better understand why different states have different interests and cooperation patterns.

232. (A) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
Integrating these two approaches allows for a more comprehensive and balanced study of global politics. It ensures that general theoretical models are grounded in empirical reality and helps to uncover the limitations of Western-centric perspectives. Furthermore, it provides a more nuanced understanding of regional dynamics and cultural factors, leading to more effective policy recommendations. This collaborative approach is essential for diversity.

233. (C) The Global Stratosphere
The formal study of different parts of the world has historically focused on established geographic and cultural zones that share common histories and political challenges. These include major regions in the Americas, Africa, and Asia that have been the primary focus of interdisciplinary research. While some environmental issues are global, they are generally analyzed through different frameworks than regional area studies.

234. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
The institutionalization of regional research in the United States was significantly influenced by the strategic needs of the government and major foundations during the mid-20th century. Large-scale funding was provided to build expertise in the languages, cultures, and political systems of various territories globally, with the primary goal of providing the knowledge and intelligence necessary for effective foreign policy.

235. (B) Institutionalized cooperation within a geographic area.
This concept refers to the formal and informal processes through which states in a specific geographic area work together to manage common problems and achieve shared goals. It involves the creation of regional organizations and agreements that facilitate cooperation in areas such as trade and security. By building these institutional ties, states can enhance their mutual prosperity and systemic stability.

236. (B) Neorealism - Analyzing South Asian systemic constraints.
Various theoretical models can be effectively used to analyze the specific strategic and political dynamics of different regions. For example, a focus on the structural competition for power and security provides valuable insights into the persistent tensions and arms races between neighboring states in certain parts of the world. Other approaches focus on different factors, such as economic or interdependence.

237. (B) As a social construct based on cultural ties.
In contemporary academia, geographic zones are no longer seen as fixed or purely natural entities, but as the product of human ideas, historical processes, and political interactions. While physical features are important, they are given meaning through shared cultural values and common interests. This perspective emphasizes that the boundaries of a region are flexible and contested, requiring a multifaceted understanding.

238. (D) Middle East - European Union (EU)
Different parts of the world have developed their own unique institutions to facilitate cooperation among neighboring states. These range from broad political and economic unions to more specialized organizations focused on trade or security. While some regions have achieved a high degree of integration, others have faced more significant challenges. The example in the list is clearly incorrect regarding geographic and political affiliation.

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239. (B) An approach comparing phenomena across different regions.
This methodological framework involves the systematic study and contrast of the experiences of different geographic zones to identify common patterns and unique differences. By looking across multiple areas, researchers can gain a broader and more nuanced perspective on the various forces that shape regional and global politics. This approach is essential for building a more comprehensive and representative academic discipline.

240. (B) Analyzing how discourses legitimize interventions.
This perspective would focus on investigating the ways in which Western academic and political narratives have framed the region and its people in ways that justify external control. It would uncover the power dynamics built into these representations and explore how they shape international policy and global understandings of regional conflicts. By deconstructing these biased discourses, scholars can challenge dominant regional narratives.

241. (B) Tension between general laws and context-specific knowledge.
This academic disagreement centers on the fundamental question of whether the study of global politics should focus on identifying universal patterns or on achieving a deep and nuanced understanding of specific geographic and cultural contexts. While traditional disciplines often prioritize the search for general rules, regional studies emphasize the unique factors that shape different parts of the world. Modern scholarship bridges this.

242. (B) Multipolarity allows powers to exert regional influence.
In an international system with several major powers, no single nation can dominate the entire globe, which can create opportunities for influential states to exert significant control within their own geographic zones. These regional powers often play a crucial role in managing local affairs and shaping regional agendas, acting as a bridge between their area and the broader global system.

243. (B) The distinct trajectories of East Asian and Eurasian states.
This emerging concept aims to highlight the unique political, economic, and social developments of a specific group of nations that have followed a different path than either the traditional West or the Global South. By focusing on these distinct experiences, scholars can uncover the limitations of existing frameworks and build a more inclusive understanding of the increasing global complexity.

244. (C) The dominant literary genres of the 18th century
The strategic analysis of a specific geographic zone typically focuses on material and spatial factors that shape its national security interests and foreign policy goals. These include its physical features, access to resources, and strategic location in relation to major maritime and land-based routes. While cultural history is important for an understanding of a region, it is not a primary determinant.

245. (C) Both Statement I and Statement II
These contemporary perspectives seek to challenge the enduring intellectual dominance of Western-centric models and to center the diverse knowledge and experiences of colonized peoples. They advocate for a fundamental rethinking of the field's core concepts and a commitment to recognizing alternative ways of understanding. By uncovering the biases built into traditional frameworks, these approaches aim to build a truly global discipline.

246. (B) The end of the Cold War caused a decline in funding.
The cessation of the geopolitical competition between the major superpowers led to a significant shift in the strategic priorities and funding patterns of governments and foundations. As the immediate need for specialized knowledge to contain a rival ideology diminished, the institutional support for regional research also decreased. This change forced the field to rethink its purpose and develop new academic justifications.

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247. (B) A Global Area Studies approach integrating dynamics.
Many contemporary scholars argue for a new way of studying the world that integrates the deep, context-specific knowledge of regional research with an understanding of broad global forces. This approach emphasizes the interconnectedness of all parts of the globe and the flows of people and ideas that transcend traditional boundaries. By moving beyond silos, researchers can build a multifaceted understanding.

248. (B) Regionalism, cooperative security, and norm-building.
This influential organization is frequently used to illustrate how a group of diverse states can work together to promote regional stability through common institutions and shared principles. It highlights the importance of dialogue and the peaceful resolution of disputes in managing regional affairs. This case provides a valuable model for understanding the possibilities and challenges of regional cooperation and identity.

249. (B) A polycentric order enhances regional organization roles.
In a world where power is spread across multiple actors and centers of authority, the importance of groups that facilitate cooperation within a specific geographic area is significantly increased. These organizations are essential for managing regional problems and providing a voice for local interests. As the traditional dominance of superpowers fades, these centers of governance play an increasingly critical global role.

250. (A) The interdisciplinary study of regional aspects and global forces.
This academic field is best understood as a broad and multifaceted approach that seeks a deep and nuanced understanding of specific geographic zones through a variety of intellectual lenses. It investigates the unique histories and political systems of these areas while also accounting for the ways in which they are shaped by broader global processes. This combination provides a comprehensive account.

251. (B) In terms of power maximization
Realist theory posits that the international system is defined by structural anarchy, forcing states to act as primary, unitary entities. Within this framework, national interest is fundamentally understood as the pursuit of power to ensure survival. This perspective prioritizes military strength and strategic control, viewing the accumulation of power as the essential metric for evaluating a nation's success.

252. (A) Because relative gains by neighbors could compromise their security
State distrust in an anarchic environment stems from the fear of relative gains. If a neighboring country increases its power or resources, even through peaceful cooperation, the original state perceives this as a potential threat to its own security. Consequently, the focus shifts from mutual benefit to preventing any neighbor from gaining a competitive advantage that shifts regional power.

253. (C) The mitigating effects of organizations and economic interdependence
Liberal theory focuses on the capacity of international organizations and economic ties to foster cooperation among nations. By creating shared interests and institutional frameworks, this approach aims to reduce the likelihood of conflict inherent in an anarchic system. It emphasizes that institutions provide stability and norms that help states move beyond the purely competitive nature of traditional power politics.

254. (D) They offered no tangible security guarantees
In an anarchic international system, decision-makers often view international norms as insufficient for ensuring national survival. Without a central authority to enforce rules, these norms lack the physical power to protect a state from aggressive neighbors. Therefore, leaders prioritize self-help and military capabilities over legalistic frameworks, believing that intangible agreements cannot provide the concrete security required for survival.

255. (C) Ensuring security through military capabilities
Structural anarchy compels states to rely on their own resources to maintain their sovereignty and safety. Realism argues that because no global government exists, states must prioritize military capabilities to deter threats. This reliance on self-help reinforces the idea that tangible power, rather than institutional trust, is the only reliable

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way to navigate the inherent dangers of the international landscape.

256. (B) As a capitalist mechanism designed to maintain economic exploitation
The Marxist perspective views the extraction of resources and labor as an intrinsic component of global capitalism. Rather than seeing international trade as mutually beneficial, this theory highlights how capitalistic structures create a hierarchy. Dominant powers utilize these mechanisms to maintain economic dominance, ensuring that developing regions remain dependent while their resources are systematically drained to benefit the core.

257. (D) It legitimizes the unequal distribution of global wealth
Critical Theories argue that the language used by dominant institutions often serves to normalize structural disparities. By framing certain economic interactions as development, these discourses justify and sustain the unequal distribution of resources. This process effectively silences marginalized voices and obscures the exploitative nature of global economic systems, making systemic inequality appear as an acceptable or even necessary outcome.

258. (A) The frameworks and institutions that normalize inequality
Critical Theories go beyond surface-level observations to interrogate the foundational frameworks and institutions governing international relations. These theories seek to uncover how certain global structures intentionally or unintentionally perpetuate economic disparities. By questioning the norms and institutional setups that make inequality seem natural, researchers can identify the systemic roots of injustice that traditional, state-centric models of power often ignore.

259. (C) Class struggles and structural emancipation
Incorporating Marxist and Critical lenses broadens the scope of International Relations beyond state diplomacy. These perspectives demand an analysis of class-based struggles and the need for structural emancipation from exploitative global systems. By focusing on these elements, scholars can address the underlying economic and social injustices that affect populations, rather than just the strategic interactions between sovereign state governments.

260. (A) Ideological superstructures and material inequalities
Traditional state-centric views focus primarily on military and political power. In contrast, this analysis highlights how ideological superstructures, such as laws and cultural norms, support and sustain material inequalities. By examining this relationship, scholars reveal that power is not just about state force but also about how ideas and institutions are used to justify an unfair distribution of wealth.

261. (D) State sovereignty and formal institutional architectures
Historically, the Western approach to Area Studies has centered on the formal aspects of governance. This includes a heavy focus on the sovereignty of states and the establishment of structured institutional architectures. Such a framework prioritizes universalized norms, often assuming that the political behavior of any region can be explained through these standardized models of state interaction and bureaucratic organization.

262. (B) It failed to explain the observed conflict resolution success
The Western framework proved insufficient in this case because it could not account for the successful resolution of the local conflict. Because the model relied on external governance standards and formal institutions, it overlooked the internal factors that actually drove the peace process. This failure highlighted the need for more localized analytical tools that recognize indigenous traditions and specific historical contexts.

263. (C) The emphasis on culturally specific mechanisms
Non-Western approaches to Area Studies prioritize the unique cultural and historical contexts of a region. Instead of applying universalized external models, these approaches look at indigenous diplomatic traditions and communal consensus-building. By focusing on these culturally specific mechanisms, analysts can understand how local actors resolve conflicts and build governance structures based on their own internal values and historical narratives.

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264. (D) A more nuanced comprehension of international interactions
Integrating diverse methodologies, such as Western and Non-Western approaches, allows for a comprehensive understanding of global politics. This integration broadens the analytical scope, moving beyond Eurocentric paradigms to include localized knowledge. Consequently, scholars achieve a more nuanced comprehension of how international interactions are shaped by a variety of cultural, historical, and institutional factors, leading to more accurate regional analyses.

265. (A) Multiple epistemological foundations
Modern global politics requires acknowledging that different regions have different ways of knowing and interpreting political reality. By accepting multiple epistemological foundations, scholars can incorporate localized knowledge systems into their analyses. This approach enriches the theoretical landscape of International Relations, as it recognizes that no single perspective, Western or otherwise, has a monopoly on explaining the complexities of human governance.

266. (B) A single nation expanding its military capabilities
The formation of military alliances was a direct response to a significant increase in the military strength of one specific nation. This growth was perceived as a threat by neighboring states, as it signaled a potential shift toward regional dominance. To counter this emerging power, nearby countries felt compelled to align their forces, illustrating the reactive nature of the international system.

267. (B) Prevent any actor from achieving systemic dominance
The Balance of Power functions as a mechanism to maintain equilibrium within the international system. It is characterized by states taking proactive or reactive steps to ensure that no single actor becomes powerful enough to dominate the others. By preventing systemic dominance, these states protect their own sovereignty and maintain a level of stability, even if the resulting environment remains competitive.

268. (A) The necessity of survival in an anarchic environment
In an anarchic international system, the absence of a central governing authority makes survival the primary goal for every state. When a rising power threatens the regional equilibrium, neighboring states prioritize their own safety above historical grudges. The need to ensure continued existence drives them to form counter-coalitions, as pooling resources is the most effective way to deter potential aggression.

269. (C) By pooling resources to neutralize the rising power
Smaller states achieved regional stability by combining their strategic and military resources. This collective action effectively neutralized the offensive advantages of the more powerful state. By creating a counter-balance, these nations prevented the rising power from acting unilaterally or aggressively. This equilibrium, while tense, ensured that no single state could easily conquer or dictate terms to its neighbors.

270. (D) Ensure the distribution of capabilities remains dispersed
Counter-balancing behaviors are essential for maintaining a dispersed distribution of military and strategic capabilities. By preventing the concentration of power in one dominant state, these actions protect the independence of multiple sovereign actors. This dispersion acts as a deterrent against unilateral aggression, as the combined strength of several smaller states can match or exceed that of an aspiring regional hegemon.

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271. (C) It contains energy reserves and acts as a trade choke point
The maritime corridor is of immense strategic value because it possesses significant energy resources and serves as a vital pathway for global trade. Locations that function as choke points naturally attract the attention of major powers seeking to control resource flow and trade routes. These geographic features create a focal point for competition, as controlling them provides both economic and strategic leverage.

272. (B) Spatial dominance that translates to hard power
Competing states seek control over strategic geographic areas to achieve spatial dominance. In the context of geopolitics, controlling key locations like maritime corridors directly enhances a nation's hard power. This physical control allows a state to project military force and exert diplomatic pressure more effectively. Ultimately, the objective is to use the environment as a tool for increasing national influence.

273. (D) A geographic constraint and opportunity for state behavior
Geopolitical analysis highlights that physical geography is an unalterable factor that both limits and enables state actions. Geography acts as a constraint by defining borders and distances, while also offering opportunities through resources and strategic positioning. Understanding this reality is crucial for explaining why nations prioritize certain areas, as the physical landscape remains a constant influence on their strategic calculations.

274. (A) By placing naval bases along the corridor coastlines
States project influence beyond their home territories by establishing a physical military presence in strategic locations. In this case, building naval bases along the coastlines of the maritime corridor allows states to monitor and control the region's activities. This projection of power demonstrates how geography and military strategy intersect, as the location of bases dictates a state's reach and influence.

275. (C) Geographic locations determine strategic priorities
The dispute over the maritime corridor confirms that specific geographic locations are disproportionately important in international relations. These areas dictate the strategic priorities of states, as their control offers significant power and economic benefits. Consequently, geopolitics remains a fundamental tool for understanding state behavior, as nations will consistently compete for dominance over regions that provide clear strategic and spatial advantages.

276. (A) A rigid system structured around two rival superpowers
Bipolarity describes an international structure where power is concentrated between two dominant superpowers. This configuration creates a rigid system characterized by zero-sum competition, as every gain for one side is perceived as a loss for the other. States within this framework are often forced to choose sides, leading to a global political landscape defined by bloc-based alignments and mutual deterrence.

277. (D) The collapse of one rival superpower
The transition to Unipolarity occurred when one of the two competing superpowers suddenly collapsed. This event removed the structural balance of the bipolar era, leaving a single state with overwhelming material and military capabilities. Without a peer competitor to check its influence, the remaining power achieved a position of global dominance, fundamentally changing the strategic options available to all other international actors.

278. (B) It reshaped international norms to fit its preferences
During the unipolar moment, the dominant state used its unprecedented influence to reshape the international system. Lacking a rival to challenge its authority, the hegemon could alter international norms and institutions to align with its own national interests and ideological preferences. This behavior illustrates how a unipolar power seeks to solidify its dominance by creating a global framework that favors its position.

279. (C) By aligning with the hegemon or using subtle resistance
In a unipolar system, lesser states have limited strategic choices. They often adapt by aligning themselves with the dominant hegemon to secure economic and security benefits. Alternatively, some states may engage in subtle, non-confrontational forms of resistance to protect their autonomy without triggering a direct conflict. These adaptation strategies reflect the uneven power dynamics present when one state possesses overwhelming global influence.

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280. (D) The distribution of power in the system
The shift from Bipolarity to Unipolarity demonstrates that the distribution of power is the primary factor dictating state behavior. As the structure of the international system changes, so do the strategies available to all actors. Whether power is concentrated or divided determines alliance dynamics, threat perceptions, and the overall stability of the system, underscoring the importance of structural power analysis.

281. (A) The assertion of strategic autonomy by several regional powers
The shift toward Multipolarity is characterized by several regional powers asserting their own strategic autonomy. These actors no longer depend exclusively on a single global superpower for guidance or security. Instead, they pursue their own national interests and regional influence, leading to a system where power is more diffuse and the global hierarchy is less defined by a single center.

282. (B) As a system where three or more actors possess significant capabilities
Multipolarity is functionally defined as an international system containing three or more actors with significant material and strategic capabilities. In this environment, power dynamics are continuously negotiated among multiple capable parties. This configuration prevents any single state from achieving total dominance and requires more complex diplomatic interactions, as alliances are often fluid and based on specific, evolving interests.

283. (B) Through distinct cultural and economic hubs operating independently
Polycentrism manifests when various cultural and economic hubs operate independently of traditional global power centers. These multiple centers dictate their own regional norms and manage their own local affairs while still participating in the broader global competition. This independence reflects a more diverse international landscape where authority is not centralized but is instead distributed across different regions with distinct priorities.

284. (A) Likelihood of global hegemony is diminished
When power is diffuse across multiple hubs and diverse actors, it becomes much more difficult for any single nation to achieve global hegemony. The presence of several capable regional powers creates a natural check on the ambitions of any one state. This structural reality fosters a competitive but interdependent system where influence must be shared and negotiated rather than imposed unilaterally.

285. (C) Temporary and driven by specific interests
In a multipolar landscape, the formation of fluid, issue-based coalitions indicates that alliances are often temporary. States align with one another to achieve specific goals rather than committing to permanent, ideologically rigid blocs. This flexibility allows regional powers to navigate a complex and unpredictable environment, shifting their partnerships as their strategic needs and the international political climate evolve over time.

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286. (D) States prioritizing national interests
Historically, environmental treaty negotiations were considered the exclusive domain of sovereign states. These actors focused on protecting and promoting their own national economic interests during the diplomatic process. Within this traditional framework, the state was viewed as the sole authority in international law, and global agreements were reached primarily through the consensus and interaction of these sovereign governmental entities.

287. (C) They provided data, mobilized opinion, and lobbied
Non-state actors exert influence by utilizing soft power tools such as information and public mobilization. In this scenario, they provided crucial scientific data to inform the negotiations, organized global public opinion to pressure governments, and directly lobbied state delegations. These actions demonstrate their ability to shape the diplomatic agenda and influence the final outcomes of international treaties through expertise and advocacy.

288. (B) The treaty included regulations states initially opposed
The involvement of non-state actors led to a final treaty that contained stringent regulations, even though many states had initially resisted these measures. By successfully lobbying and mobilizing information, these organizations and corporations forced a shift in the policy outcome.

This result demonstrates that non-state entities possess the capacity to significantly alter the terms of international agreements, even against state preferences.

289. (D) Non-state entities have the ability to constrain state sovereignty
The current global political landscape shows that non-state entities can effectively constrain state sovereignty and influence international norms. While states remain powerful, they are no longer the only significant actors. Organizations and corporations can limit a state's freedom of action by creating external pressures and shaping global standards, indicating that the scope of international relations has expanded to include diverse actors.

290. (A) By altering policy through resources and data
Non-governmental organizations and corporations proved their power by successfully altering policy through the strategic use of resources and information. By providing essential data and mobilizing public support, they demonstrated a formidable capacity to influence high-level diplomatic processes. Their ability to change treaty outcomes shows that power in modern international relations is not solely based on military force or state authority.

291. (C) By looking at foreign states and global pressures
International Relations scholars initially applied a macro-level lens to the governance crisis. This approach focused on the influence of foreign states and the impact of global institutional pressures. By examining the crisis through the lens of external state interactions and systemic forces, they aimed to identify the international factors that were shaping the situation within the specific localized territory.

292. (A) It could not explain the persistent domestic resistance
The initial macro-level approach was considered a failure because it could not account for the ongoing domestic resistance within the region. By focusing only on international and state-to-state factors, the analysis overlooked the internal social and political dynamics driving the local population's actions. This gap highlighted the limitations of using a purely systemic model to understand complex, localized governance issues.

293. (D) Historical, linguistic, and cultural dimensions
Researchers using the Area Studies framework prioritized the unique internal characteristics of the region. This included examining its specific historical background, linguistic nuances, and cultural traditions. By focusing on these granular details, the analysts were able to uncover the local roots of the governance crisis, which were deeply embedded in the region's specific identity and historical grievances rather than global trends.

294. (B) To establish systemic theories of state interaction
The discipline of International Relations primarily aims to establish broad and systemic theories regarding the interactions between states. Its nature is to look for universal patterns and structural forces that influence global politics on a macro level. This approach seeks to understand how the international system as a whole functions, often prioritizing generalizable models over the specific, localized details of individual regions.

295. (C) A holistic view filtered through regional realities
Merging International Relations and Area Studies provides a holistic understanding of political phenomena. This combination allows for a systemic analysis that is also grounded in regional realities. By applying broad theories while considering specific cultural and historical contexts, analysts can achieve a more complete picture. This approach ensures that global political trends are correctly interpreted through the unique filters of localized situations.

296. (D) A severe resource scarcity crisis
The two rival states were pushed toward cooperation by a severe resource scarcity crisis affecting their shared water supply. This urgent environmental and economic challenge forced the nations to reconsider their traditional geopolitical rivalry. The need to manage a critical but diminishing resource served as the catalyst for establishing a joint commission, moving the states away from conflict and toward institutional collaboration.

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297. (A) Institutions and trade can mitigate anarchy
This scenario reinforces the core Liberal argument that international institutions and economic interdependence can lessen the negative effects of global anarchy. By creating a joint commission, the states used an institutional framework to manage their conflict. This cooperation demonstrates that when states are linked through shared resources and formal agreements, they can overcome the competitive pressures that typically drive nations toward war.

298. (B) By lowering transaction costs and building mutual trust
The joint river basin commission assisted the states by serving as a stable platform for communication and negotiation. This institutional setup lowered the transaction costs of reaching agreements and helped build mutual trust over time. By providing mechanisms for transparency and dispute resolution, the commission made it easier for formerly antagonistic rivals to cooperate effectively and reach a sustainable water management treaty.

299. (B) Shared economic benefits outweighed conflict advantages
States chose collaboration over military action because the shared economic gains from a stable water supply were more valuable than the potential strategic benefits of conflict. The agreement ensured steady agricultural and industrial output for both nations, providing a concrete incentive for peace. This rational calculation showed that absolute gains from working together can be more attractive than the risky pursuit of power.

300. (A) Absolute gains from collaboration
The successful water treaty represents a fundamental shift from zero-sum power politics toward the pursuit of absolute gains. Instead of focusing on relative advantage, the states prioritized the total benefits they could both receive through cooperation. This transition highlights the capacity of international institutions to foster enduring peace by emphasizing mutual economic and resource security over traditional military and strategic rivalry.

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CHAPTER 02

Evolution of International Relations and Area Studies

1. Which treaty is widely considered the foundational event for the emergence of the modern nation-state system in international relations?
(A) Treaty of Versailles
(B) Treaty of Westphalia
(C) Congress of Vienna
(D) Treaty of Utrecht

2. Consider the following statements regarding the emergence of nationalism in Europe:
I. It coincided with the decline of feudalism and religious universalism.
II. It was significantly propelled by the French Revolution.
III. It sought to separate cultural identity from political borders.
IV. It promoted the idea of popular sovereignty.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and IV
(B) I, II and III
(C) II, III and IV
(D) I, III and IV

3. Which of the following statements correctly defines the concept of "territoriality" in the context of early nation-states?
(A) The legal merging of religious and political authority.
(B) The extension of a state's power beyond its legal borders into colonies.
(C) The principle that a state exerts exclusive authority over a defined geographic area.
(D) The shared cultural identity of a populace irrespective of borders.

4. Match List I with List II:
List I: Concepts of State Evolution
P. Civic Nationalism
Q. Ethnic Nationalism
R. Feudalism
S. Sovereignty
List II: Key Characteristics
1. Decentralized power based on land ownership
2. Identity based on shared political values and citizenship
3. Supreme and independent political authority
4. Identity based on shared heritage and language
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(B) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(C) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

5. Which approach to the formation of early nation-states emphasizes the functional need for standardized communication and centralized administration during the industrial revolution?
(A) Constructivism
(B) Primordialism
(C) Modernism
(D) Perennialism

6. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The Peace of Westphalia established the principle of cujus regio, ejus religio.
Reason (R): The treaty aimed to enforce a single universal religion across all European territories.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

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7. Which of the following is NOT a core feature of the classical nation-state model?
(A) Defined territory
(B) Population with shared identity
(C) Internal sovereignty
(D) Supranational governance

8. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The French Revolution introduced the concept of the "nation in arms" (levée en masse), merging citizenship with military duty.
Statement II: The emergence of nationalism strictly reduced the frequency and scale of inter-state conflicts in 19th-century Europe.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

9. Which of the following best describes the "Billiard Ball Model" often associated with the classic Westphalian state system?
(A) States are permeable entities easily influenced by non-state actors.
(B) The international system is driven entirely by economic interdependence.
(C) States are seen as solid, unitary actors interacting purely through external collisions.
(D) Internal domestic politics strictly determine the foreign policy trajectory of all states.

10. The transition from dynastic empires to nation-states primarily caused which of the following systemic changes?
(A) The alignment of political legitimacy with popular national identity.
(B) The eradication of balance of power politics.
(C) The immediate decline of colonial ambitions among European powers.
(D) The universal adoption of democratic governance by 1850.

11. What was the primary mechanism used by the Congress of Vienna (1815) to maintain stability in the pre-World War I international system?
(A) Collective security enforced by a global parliament.
(B) Bipolar ideological confrontation.
(C) Universal disarmament treaties.
(D) The Concert of Europe establishing a balance of power.

12. Consider the following statements regarding the features of the pre-World War I International System:
I. Multi-polar balance of power.
II. Secret diplomacy and rigid alliance systems.
III. Establishment of the League of Nations.
IV. Imperialism and global colonial competition.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) I, II, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

13. Which of the following statements incorrectly characterizes the Concert of Europe?
(A) It relied on regular conferences among major powers.
(B) It successfully prevented any major war between great powers for nearly a century.
(C) It was designed to promote liberal democratic revolutions across Europe.
(D) It aimed to uphold the territorial boundaries established in 1815.

14. Match List I with List II:
List I: Alliances in Pre-WWI System
P. Triple Alliance (1882)
Q. Triple Entente (1907)
R. Dual Alliance (1879)
S. Holy Alliance (1815)
List II: Member States
1. Russia, Prussia, Austria
2. Germany, Austria-Hungary
3. Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy
4. France, Britain, Russia
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1

15. The "Scramble for Africa" in the late 19th century demonstrates which concept of the pre-WWI international system?

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(A) Imperial expansion as a safety valve for European rivalries
(B) The planned and systematic withdrawal of colonial administration
(C) The process where colonies achieve sovereign independence
(D) Economic globalization based on free trade principles

16. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The Bismarckian alliance system was fundamentally designed to isolate France diplomatically.
Reason (R): Germany sought revenge against France for the territorial losses in the Franco-Prussian War.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

17. Except for one, all of the following were major factors leading to the collapse of the pre-World War I international system. Identify the exception.
(A) The rise of aggressive hyper-nationalism within the Balkan region.
(B) The successful mediation of the July Crisis by the League of Nations.
(C) The escalating naval arms race between the British and German empires.
(D) The increased rigidity of secret military and defensive alliances.

18. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The pre-WWI system was characterized by a multipolar distribution of power among European states.
Statement II: The system formally recognized the equality of European and non-European sovereign states in international law.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

19. The concept of "Weltpolitik," which shifted foreign policy focus from continental security to global empire building, is most closely associated with which state in the pre-WWI era?
(A) Great Britain
(B) Imperial Russia
(C) Wilhelmine Germany
(D) Austro-Hungarian Empire

20. The structural shift from fluid alliances in the early 19th century to rigid bloc alignments by 1914 directly caused which of the following?
(A) A decrease in military expenditures.
(B) The localization of regional disputes, preventing wider wars.
(C) The collapse of colonial empires before WWI.
(D) The transformation of a localized crisis into a global war.

21. Which concept refers to the right of a distinct national group to decide its own political status and government, prominent in the Inter-War period?
(A) Supranationalism
(B) Hegemonic stability
(C) Self-determination
(D) Neo-colonialism

22. Consider the following statements regarding the Inter-War period:
I. Rise of totalitarian regimes.
II. Success of the League of Nations in preventing aggression.
III. Great Depression and economic protectionism.
IV. The policy of appeasement by Western democracies.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) I, III, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

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23. Which of the following statements correctly evaluates the Kellogg-Briand Pact of 1928?

(A) It established a binding military alliance to contain German aggression.
(B) It proved effective in halting the Japanese military invasion of Manchuria.
(C) It served as the formal legal basis for establishing the United Nations.
(D) It renounced war as an instrument of national policy but lacked enforcement mechanisms.

24. Match List I with List II:
List I: Inter-War Treaties/Events
P. Locarno Treaties (1925)
Q. Munich Agreement (1938)
R. Treaty of Rapallo (1922)
S. Washington Naval Conference (1921-22)
List II: Key Focus
1. Diplomatic and economic normalization between Germany and Soviet Russia
2. Arms control and limits on naval construction
3. Guaranteeing Western European borders
4. Cession of the Sudetenland to Germany
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

25. According to a realist perspective, collective security mechanisms such as the League of Nations fail primarily because:
(A) They lack the necessary moral authority to influence sovereign decisions.
(B) The international system lacked a sufficient number of democratic states.
(C) States prioritize their own national interests and survival over abstract collective commitments.
(D) Member states are often hindered by complex economic interdependence goals.

26. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The Inter-War period saw a significant decline in global free trade.
Reason (R): The Great Depression led major economies to adopt protectionist policies like the Smoot-Hawley Tariff.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

27. Which of the following was NOT a reason for the failure of the League of Nations?
(A) The absence of the United States.
(B) The requirement for unanimous decisions in the Council.
(C) The lack of an independent military force.
(D) The overrepresentation of Asian and African states in its Council.

28. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The policy of appeasement was based on the belief that addressing the legitimate grievances of revisionist states would ensure peace.
Statement II: The appeasement policy ended immediately following the German remilitarization of the Rhineland in 1936.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

29. The term "Revisionist Powers" in the context of the Inter-War period refers most accurately to states that:
(A) Supported the rigorous and strict enforcement of the Versailles Treaty.
(B) Advocated for the immediate and total decolonization of the African continent.
(C) Sought to alter the territorial and systemic status quo established after WWI.
(D) Focused primarily on achieving internal economic self-sufficiency and growth.

30. Which of the following represents a direct cause-and-effect relationship regarding international security during the Inter-War period?
(A) The creation of the Mandate System caused immediate global decolonization.
(B) The signing of the Treaty of Versailles

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caused the immediate rise of the bipolar Cold War system.
(C) The success of collective security caused the total disarmament of European powers.
(D) The Great Depression caused a resurgence of economic nationalism and aggressive expansionism by states like Japan and Germany.

31. The term "Cold War" is used to define the Post-World War II international system because:
(A) It involved intense geopolitical rivalry without direct, large-scale military confrontation between the superpowers.
(B) The conflict was fought exclusively during harsh winter climates in Europe.
(C) All diplomatic relations between the US and USSR remained frozen for decades.
(D) Both superpowers engaged in massive conventional wars directly against one another.

32. Consider the following statements regarding doctrines and policies from the Cold War period:
I. The Truman Doctrine aimed at containing Soviet expansion.
II. The Brezhnev Doctrine justified Soviet intervention in socialist countries.
III. The Marshall Plan provided economic aid to rebuild Western Europe.
IV. Détente refers to the reduction of tensions between the superpowers.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I and II only
(C) II and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

33. Which statement incorrectly describes the nature of bipolarity during the Cold War?
(A) The system was dominated by two superpowers with overwhelming military and economic capabilities.
(B) The bipolar structure allowed minor powers to act with absolute autonomy in foreign affairs.
(C) The superpowers formed rigid alliance blocs such as NATO and the Warsaw Pact.
(D) The threat of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) helped maintain systemic stability between the blocs.

34. Match List I with List II:
List I: Cold War Crises
P. Cuban Missile Crisis
Q. Construction of the Berlin Wall
R. Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan
S. Korean War Begins
List II: Year
1. 1950
2. 1961
3. 1962
4. 1979
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1

35. Which of the following best exemplifies the phenomenon of a "Proxy War" during the Cold War?
(A) The direct naval standoff occurring during the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.
(B) The intense scientific and prestige-driven space race between the US and USSR.
(C) The Vietnam War, where local forces were heavily backed by the rival superpowers.
(D) The formal signing of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) agreements.

36. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The Cold War international system is often described by neorealists as highly stable.
Reason (R): The bipolar distribution of power and nuclear deterrence reduced the likelihood of a direct great power war.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

37. Which of the following leaders is NOT correctly paired with their Cold War policy?
(A) Mikhail Gorbachev - Glasnost and Perestroika
(B) Harry S. Truman - Containment
(C) Joseph Stalin - Peaceful Coexistence

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(D) Richard Nixon - Détente

38. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) was established to provide an alternative for states wishing to avoid entanglement in the Cold War bloc rivalry.
Statement II: NAM fundamentally opposed the process of decolonization to maintain global stability.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

39. Which of the following is the most appropriate explanation for the ultimate collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War?
(A) The total military defeat of the Soviet army by NATO forces in Central Europe.
(B) Internal economic stagnation, political reform failures, and the cost of the arms race.
(C) The immediate success of the United Nations in demanding Soviet dissolution.
(D) The simultaneous collapse of communist ideology in all nations, including China.

40. The transition from massive retaliation to flexible response by the United States during the Cold War caused:
(A) An increased reliance on conventional military forces and specialized counterinsurgency units.
(B) A total and permanent halt in the production of all nuclear weapon systems.
(C) The immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all US military troops from Europe.
(D) The sudden decision by the Soviet Union to abandon its nuclear research program.

41. In Area Studies, the term "Global South" primarily refers to:
(A) Geographically southern hemisphere countries only.
(B) Industrialized nations in the southern hemisphere like Australia and New Zealand.
(C) Developing and less developed countries, predominantly located in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.
(D) Former Soviet republics in Central Asia.

42. Consider the following statements regarding Decolonisation:
I. It was accelerated by the weakening of European powers post-WWII.
II. It resulted in a rapid increase in the membership of the United Nations.
III. It completely eradicated economic dependencies between former colonies and colonizers.
IV. It was heavily influenced by the principle of national self-determination.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

43. Which statement correctly describes "Dependency Theory" in the context of the Global South?
(A) The belief that developing countries must depend entirely on the UN for security.
(B) The idea that the Global South must rely on Soviet aid to achieve industrialization.
(C) The theory that economic independence is achieved through unhindered free trade.
(D) The global economic system structurally exploits peripheral nations to enrich the core industrialized nations.

44. Match List I with List II:
List I: Key Concepts
P. Bandung Conference (1955)
Q. NIEO (New International Economic Order)
R. Neo-colonialism
S. Third World
List II: Focus Area
1. Restructuring global trade and economic policies
2. Cold War term for non-aligned developing nations
3. Afro-Asian solidarity against colonialism
4. Indirect exploitation via economic and cultural means

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(A) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

45. Which doctrine was most significantly promoted by newly independent states regarding the impact of decolonisation on international law?
(A) The right of unilateral humanitarian intervention.
(B) The abolition of state sovereignty.
(C) Permanent sovereignty over natural resources.
(D) The legalization of pre-emptive strikes.

46. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The structural adjustment programs (SAPs) of the 1980s were highly praised for ending poverty in the Global South.
Reason (R): SAPs mandated privatization, deregulation, and reduced public spending.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

47. Which of the following was NOT a major agenda of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) during the Cold War?
(A) Formation of a joint military command for the Global South.
(B) Opposition to apartheid in South Africa.
(C) Struggle against imperialism and colonialism.
(D) Advocacy for nuclear disarmament.

48. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The concept of the "Global South" has completely replaced the term "Third World" due to the end of the Cold War bipolarity.
Statement II: The "Global South" strictly excludes any nation that has achieved upper-middle-income status.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

49. The demand for a New International Economic Order (NIEO) in the 1970s was most appropriately driven by the desire to:
(A) Establish a new global currency designed to replace the US dollar in all trades.
(B) Rectify unequal terms of trade and increase the Global South's control over global economic institutions.
(C) Mandate the immediate and total closure of the World Bank and the IMF.
(D) Compel industrialized nations to pay massive reparations for historical colonialism.

50. The success of national liberation movements in Africa and Asia directly caused which structural shift in the United Nations?
(A) A shift in voting power in the General Assembly favoring developing nations.
(B) The abolition of the Security Council veto.
(C) The relocation of the UN headquarters to Geneva.
(D) The creation of a permanent UN standing army.

51. The "End of History" thesis proposed by Francis Fukuyama in the post-Cold War era defined the endpoint of mankind's ideological evolution as:
(A) The universalization of Marxist-Leninism.
(B) The rise of religious fundamentalism.
(C) The triumph of Western liberal democracy.
(D) The establishment of a single global world government.

52. Arrange the following post-Cold War events in chronological order:
I. September 11 Terrorist Attacks in the US
II. Fall of the Berlin Wall
III. The US invasion of Iraq
IV. Dissolution of the Soviet Union
(A) II, IV, I, III
(B) IV, II, III, I
(C) II, I, IV, III
(D) IV, I, II, III

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53. Which of the following statements incorrectly characterizes the post-Cold War international system in the 1990s?
(A) It was frequently described as a unipolar moment dominated by the United States.
(B) It witnessed a surge in intra-state conflicts and ethnic violence.
(C) It marked the permanent cessation of all major power geopolitical rivalries.
(D) It saw the expansion of NATO and the European Union.

54. Identify the incorrect pair regarding post-Cold War international theories and their core argument:
(A) Clash of Civilizations - Future conflicts will be driven by cultural and religious identities.
(B) Democratic Peace Theory - Democracies do not go to war with one another.
(C) Complex Interdependence - States are intertwined through multiple channels, reducing the utility of military force.
(D) Unipolar Illusion - US hegemony will last permanently without any balancing efforts by other states.

55. Which concept would most likely be applied to the 1999 NATO intervention in Kosovo conducted without UN Security Council authorization?
(A) Collective Security operations conducted under Chapter VII of the UN Charter.
(B) Pre-emptive self-defense actions taken against imminent regional security threats.
(C) Humanitarian Intervention and the emerging R2P (Responsibility to Protect) norm.
(D) Neocolonial proxy wars aimed at expanding the influence of Western superpowers.

56. The rise of non-state actors in the post-Cold War era has caused:
(A) The complete and total obsolescence of the nation-state as a political actor.
(B) A diffusion of power where states must contend with multinational corporations, NGOs, and transnational terrorist networks.
(C) The decision by the United Nations to grant full veto power to international NGOs.
(D) A significant and observable decrease in the complexity of international diplomacy.

57. Which of the following regions is an EXCEPTION to the general trend of successful regional economic integration in the post-Cold War era?
(A) Europe (European Union)
(B) Southeast Asia (ASEAN)
(C) North America (USMCA/NAFTA)
(D) South Asia (SAARC)

58. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The post-Cold War era saw a significant increase in UN peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations.
Statement II: All post-Cold War UN peacekeeping missions successfully achieved their objectives of preventing genocide.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

59. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of multipolarity in the contemporary international system?
(A) Two superpowers balancing each other through the doctrine of nuclear deterrence.
(B) A single global hegemon dictating all rules and norms of international governance.
(C) Several major powers, including emerging economies like China and India, sharing global influence and capabilities.
(D) An anarchic system with no powerful states, dominated by international organizations.

60. To evaluate a state's shift toward "soft power" in the post-Cold War era, one would look for competencies in:
(A) Utilizing cultural appeal, political values, and foreign policies to persuade others.
(B) The strategic expansion of permanent military bases across various global regions.
(C) The imposition of coercive economic sanctions to achieve specific policy goals.
(D) The conduct of widespread and covert intelligence operations in foreign nations.

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61. In the context of International Relations, "Globalisation" is primarily defined as:
(A) The complete elimination of state borders to create a unified world government.
(B) The increasing interconnectedness and interdependence of global economies, cultures, and populations.
(C) The process by which localized cultures systematically replace dominant ones.
(D) The strict regulation of all international trade by the United Nations bodies.

62. Consider the following statements regarding the impact of globalization on state sovereignty:
I. It has eroded economic sovereignty due to global financial markets.
II. It has rendered the legal concept of territorial sovereignty irrelevant.
III. It has empowered transnational corporations at the expense of state regulations.
IV. It has created complex governance regimes that states must navigate.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, III, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

63. Which statement correctly identifies a political impact of globalization?
(A) It strictly limits the spread of democratic norms.
(B) It facilitates the rapid transnational spread of political ideas and social movements.
(C) It isolates domestic political systems from international scrutiny.
(D) It prevents international organizations from interfering in human rights issues.

64. Identify the correct pair regarding globalization theories and their perspective:
(A) Hyperglobalizers - Believe the nation-state is becoming obsolete.
(B) Skeptics - Believe globalization is a completely new and unprecedented historical phase.
(C) Transformationalists - Believe globalization strictly decreases global inequalities.
(D) Realists - Believe globalization has completely replaced military power with economic power.

65. Based on the case of the 2008 Global Financial Crisis, which concept of globalization is most visibly demonstrated?
(A) Aggressive economic protectionism.
(B) Systemic contagion and financial interdependence.
(C) Widespread cultural homogenization.
(D) Rigid bipolar security dilemmas.

66. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): Globalization has led to a backlash characterized by rising populism and economic nationalism.
Reason (R): The benefits of globalization have been unevenly distributed, leading to job losses in certain domestic manufacturing sectors.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

67. Except for one, all of the following are significant drivers of contemporary globalization. Identify the exception.
(A) Advancements in information and communication technology.
(B) The reduction of tariffs through the World Trade Organization (WTO).
(C) Improvements in global transportation and logistics.
(D) The global resurgence of autarkic economic models.

68. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: Cultural globalization strictly leads to a single, homogeneous global culture, erasing all local traditions.
Statement II: "Glocalization" refers to the adaptation of global products and ideas to fit local cultural contexts.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is

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incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

69. Which of the following is the most appropriate metric for measuring the economic dimension of globalization?
(A) The total number of foreign embassies established within a country's borders.
(B) The ratio of international trade and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
(C) The size and technological capability of a state's standing military forces.
(D) The annual frequency of national cultural festivals and international events.

70. How has globalization affected international security?
(A) It has completely eliminated the global threat of transnational terrorism.
(B) It has restricted the international arms trade exclusively to major powers.
(C) It has caused all sovereign states to abandon their standing military forces.
(D) It has made it easier for transnational criminal networks and terrorists to operate across borders.

71. In classical International Relations, "sovereignty" implies:
(A) A state's subordination to international organizations.
(B) The absolute and perpetual power of a republic within its borders.
(C) The sharing of resources among neighboring countries.
(D) The economic dominance of one state over another.

72. Consider the following statements regarding the Peace of Westphalia (1648):
I. It ended the Thirty Years' War in Europe.
II. It established the principle of state sovereignty.
III. It created a global supranational authority.
IV. It institutionalized the concept of non-intervention in domestic affairs.
V. It mandated democracy in all signatory states.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, III, and IV
(C) I, III, and V
(D) II, IV, and V

73. Which of the following statements about the emergence of nationalism is incorrect?
(A) Nationalism provided the ideological justification for the nation-state.
(B) Print capitalism played a crucial role in creating "imagined communities."
(C) Nationalism was entirely a non-violent, intellectual movement in 19th-century Europe.
(D) It sought to align the political unit with the cultural or ethnic unit.

74. Match List I with List II:
List I: Theorists of Nationalism
P. Benedict Anderson
Q. Ernest Gellner
R. Eric Hobsbawm
S. Anthony D. Smith
List II: Key Concept
1. Ethno-symbolism
2. Imagined Communities
3. Nationalism as a functional necessity of industrialization
4. Invented Traditions
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

75. In the context of the breakup of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, how did the concept of nationalism apply?
(A) Multi-ethnic empires were significantly strengthened by rising national identities.
(B) Nationalism unified the diverse populations of the empire against external threats.
(C) Nationalism acted as a centrifugal force, fracturing the empire along ethnic lines.
(D) Global economic integration successfully replaced all nationalist sentiments.

76. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The French Revolution is

often viewed as a catalyst for modern mass nationalism.
Reason (R): It shifted sovereignty from the monarch to the "people" or the nation.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

77. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of the pre-WWI balance of power system?
(A) Flexibility of alliances in the early 19th century.
(B) Use of war as a legitimate instrument of state policy.
(C) Multipolarity.
(D) Existence of a central global governing body to enforce peace.

78. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The Concert of Europe established a rigid system of international law that permanently banned territorial annexations.
Statement II: The Concert system relied on informal consultations and a shared interest among great powers to maintain the status quo.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

79. Which of the following is the most appropriate explanation for the outbreak of World War I from a structural realist perspective?
(A) The aggressive and unpredictable personalities of individual European monarchs.
(B) The total failure of global capitalist economic systems during the 19th century.
(C) The rigid bipolarization of alliances under anarchic conditions creating a severe security dilemma.
(D) The sudden rise of anti-colonial movements across the African continent.

80. The Inter-War period's transition from the optimism of the 1920s to the crises of the 1930s caused:
(A) A significant strengthening of the League of Nations' global authority.
(B) The development of a global consensus on universal human rights.
(C) The immediate and total decolonization of the entire British Empire.
(D) The collapse of collective security and a return to aggressive state self-help mechanisms.

81. "Collective Security" is conceptually defined as a system where:
(A) States form exclusive bilateral alliances for the purpose of mutual defense.
(B) Regional security is entirely outsourced to a single dominant global hegemon.
(C) States rely solely on their internal military buildup to ensure national safety.
(D) An attack on one state is considered an attack on all, prompting a united response.

82. Arrange the following events of the Inter-War period in chronological order:
I. Japanese invasion of Manchuria
II. Signing of the Kellogg-Briand Pact
III. The Munich Crisis
IV. Italian invasion of Abyssinia (Ethiopia)
(A) II, I, IV, III
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, IV, I, III
(D) I, IV, II, III

83. Which of the following statements about the Great Depression's impact on international relations is correct?
(A) It fostered much greater levels of economic cooperation among Western powers.
(B) It led to the immediate creation of the World Trade Organization (WTO).
(C) It forced the Soviet Union into a deep and prolonged economic recession.
(D) It weakened democratic governments and facilitated the rise of fascist and militarist regimes.

84. Identify the incorrect pair regarding inter-war diplomacy:
(A) Washington Naval Treaty - Limitation of

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battleship tonnage
(B) Locarno Pact - Normalization of relations in Western Europe
(C) Treaty of Versailles - Established the borders of post-WWII Europe
(D) Dawes Plan - Restructuring of German reparations

85. According to E.H. Carr's critique in "The Twenty Years' Crisis," the failure of the League of Nations was a failure of:
(A) Structural realism that significantly overestimated the role of economic power.
(B) Constructivism that failed to build strong international norms and values.
(C) Utopianism/Idealism that ignored the realities of power politics.
(D) Neoliberal institutionalism focusing on the benefits of global cooperation.

86. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The United States never joined the League of Nations despite President Woodrow Wilson being its chief architect.
Reason (R): The US Senate refused to ratify the Treaty of Versailles due to concerns over loss of national sovereignty and being drawn into foreign wars.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

87. All of the following were territorial changes established by the Treaty of Versailles EXCEPT:
(A) The return of Alsace-Lorraine to France.
(B) The creation of an independent Poland with a corridor to the sea.
(C) The stripping of Germany's overseas colonies.
(D) The division of Germany into four occupation zones.

88. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The policy of appeasement successfully prevented major power conflicts during the 1930s.
Statement II: Appeasement allowed revisionist powers like Nazi Germany to incrementally overturn the Versailles settlement without immediate military retaliation.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

89. Which of the following is the most appropriate explanation for the establishment of the Mandate System after WWI?
(A) To grant immediate and full independence to all former Ottoman and German territories.
(B) To administer former enemy territories under the auspices of the League of Nations, theoretically preparing them for self-rule.
(C) To permanently incorporate these diverse territories into the British and French empires.
(D) To create a new international homeland for all displaced European war refugees.

90. The breakdown of the Inter-War international system directly caused:
(A) The onset of the Cold War bipolar system immediately in 1939.
(B) A swift return to the Concert of Europe system.
(C) The total collapse of global industrialization.
(D) The outbreak of World War II.

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91. The term "Containment" in Cold War history is defined as:
(A) The US policy to prevent the spread of communism beyond its existing boundaries.
(B) The Soviet strategy to surround the United States with socialist ally states.
(C) The UN strategy designed to contain the proliferation of all nuclear weapons.
(D) The coordinated global effort aimed at containing regional proxy conflicts.

92. Consider the following statements regarding the Cold War arms race:

I. It heavily relied on the doctrine of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD).
II. It led to the signing of various arms control treaties like SALT and START.
III. It resulted in frequent, direct nuclear exchanges between the superpowers.
IV. It spurred massive technological advancements, including the Space Race.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

93. Which statement incorrectly defines the concept of "Détente" during the Cold War?
(A) It represented a permanent end to the ideological conflict between the US and USSR.
(B) It was a defined period of relaxed tensions and increased diplomacy in the 1970s.
(C) It facilitated landmark agreements such as the 1975 Helsinki Accords.
(D) It began to deteriorate significantly after the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

94. Match List I with List II:
List I: Cold War Alliances/Pacts
P. NATO
Q. Warsaw Pact
R. SEATO
S. CENTO (Baghdad Pact)
List II: Year Formed
1. 1954
2. 1949
3. 1955
4. 1955 (reformed 1959)
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4

95. In the study of the Cuban Missile Crisis, whose work provides a decision-making model analyzing standard operating procedures and bureaucratic politics?
(A) Graham Allison
(B) Kenneth Waltz
(C) Hans Morgenthau
(D) Alexander Wendt

96. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The division of Germany was a central focal point of the Cold War in Europe.
Reason (R): The geopolitical control of a unified Germany could have decisively shifted the balance of power in favor of either superpower.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

97. Which of the following is an EXCEPTION to the general characteristics of the Cold War?
(A) Intense ideological competition.
(B) Competition in space exploration.
(C) Bipolar military security alliances.
(D) Extensive economic integration between the US and Soviet blocs.

98. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The Sino-Soviet split in the 1960s reinforced the strict bipolar nature of the Cold War.
Statement II: The split led to a multipolar dynamic within the communist bloc and eventual US-China rapprochement.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

99. Which of the following is the most appropriate characterization of the "Second Cold War" in the early 1980s?
(A) The immediate and total dissolution of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).
(B) A sudden and unprecedented surge in bilateral economic trade between the superpowers.
(C) Heightened military spending and the deployment of intermediate-range missiles

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in Europe.
(D) The voluntary and unilateral disarmament of the entire Soviet military establishment.

100. Which of the following is essential for analyzing a state's strategic use of proxy wars?
(A) How superpowers seek to project power and drain rivals without risking direct, escalatory conflict.
(B) The legal frameworks and dispute mechanisms of the World Trade Organization.
(C) The internal domestic polling data and electoral trends of minor powers.
(D) The philosophical and historical origins of democratic peace theory.

101. The concept of "Decolonisation" refers primarily to:
(A) The process of expanding historical empires into newly discovered territories.
(B) The economic integration of former colonies into European industrial markets.
(C) The voluntary merging of several small states into larger federal systems.
(D) The dismantling of colonial empires and the emergence of politically independent states.

102. Consider the following statements regarding the Global South:
I. It includes the majority of post-colonial states.
II. It is characterized generally by lower levels of industrial development.
III. It historically sought a New International Economic Order (NIEO).
IV. It uniformly adopts liberal democratic governance.
V. It has increasingly utilized South-South cooperation.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

103. Which of the following statements about the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is incorrect?
(A) It formally originated from the landmark Bandung Conference held in 1955.
(B) Its founding leadership included figures such as Nehru, Tito, and Nasser.
(C) It consistently opposed all forms of colonialism, imperialism, and racism.
(D) It formed a heavily armed military alliance against the Soviet Union.

104. Identify the correct pair regarding thinkers of decolonization and their works:
(A) Frantz Fanon - The Wretched of the Earth
(B) Edward Said - The Clash of Civilizations
(C) Kwame Nkrumah - The End of History
(D) Raul Prebisch - Orientalism

105. Which of the following would be the primary focus of Post-Colonial Theory when applied to contemporary international relations?
(A) How historical colonial hierarchies continue to shape modern global power dynamics and cultural perceptions.
(B) The structural distribution and management of nuclear weapons among great powers.
(C) The creation of mathematical modeling for complex global trade and financial flows.
(D) The rational choice calculations of sovereign states entering military alliances.

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106. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): Decolonisation drastically altered the composition and agenda of the United Nations General Assembly.
Reason (R): The influx of newly independent states created a voting majority that prioritized issues like economic development and anti-apartheid over Cold War security issues.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

107. All of the following are significant challenges faced by the Global South in contemporary international politics EXCEPT:
(A) Severe and recurring sovereign debt crises.
(B) Complete dominance over global financial institutions like the IMF.
(C) High vulnerability to the impacts of global

climate change.
(D) Persistent and unequal terms of global international trade.

108. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The concept of "Neo-colonialism" suggests that despite formal political independence, Global South countries remain economically and structurally dependent on former colonizers.
Statement II: Neo-colonialism relies on direct military occupation rather than economic mechanisms.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

109. Which of the following is the most appropriate term for the increasing economic, political, and technical collaboration among developing nations?
(A) North-South Dialogue
(B) South-South Cooperation
(C) Hegemonic Stability
(D) Core-Periphery Integration

110. Which of the following describes the primary aim of BRICS in the context of shifting global power dynamics?
(A) Promote a multipolar world order and reform global financial governance.
(B) Create a single unified military command to replace NATO.
(C) Establish a unified global currency managed by the UN.
(D) Reinforce the unipolar dominance of the United States.

111. "Unipolarity" in the immediate post-Cold War era is defined as a system where:
(A) A system where power is equally distributed among three or more major states.
(B) A condition where there are no powerful states, only international institutions.
(C) A structure where two super states balance each other with total perfection.
(D) A single state possesses overwhelmingly predominant material capabilities compared to all others.

112. Arrange the following international treaties/ agreements in chronological order of their signing:
I. Kyoto Protocol
II. Maastricht Treaty
III. Rome Statute (creating the ICC)
IV. Paris Agreement on Climate Change
(A) II, I, III, IV
(B) I, II, IV, III
(C) II, III, I, IV
(D) III, II, I, IV

113. Which of the following reflects the neorealist view of the post-Cold War world?
(A) Unipolarity is highly durable and will permanently eliminate all conflict.
(B) Unipolarity is inherently unstable because other states will inevitably balance against the hegemon.
(C) International organizations have completely superseded state power and influence.
(D) Democracies will never fight each other regardless of global power distribution.

114. Identify the incorrect pair regarding post-Cold War concepts:
(A) R2P - Responsibility to Protect
(B) War on Terror - Post-9/11 US foreign policy paradigm
(C) Asymmetric Warfare - Conflict between actors with vastly unequal military capabilities
(D) Washington Consensus - State-led, centrally planned economic policies

115. A situation where a non-state terrorist network utilizes commercial aircraft to attack a superpower's financial and military centers is best analyzed using the concept of:
(A) Asymmetric threat and transnational terrorism.
(B) Traditional interstate balancing acts.
(C) Aggressive economic protectionism.
(D) Strategic nuclear deterrence.

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116. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

Assertion (A): The post-Cold War era saw a proliferation of regional organizations.

Reason (R): States sought regional integration to enhance economic competitiveness in a globalized economy and address regional security issues.

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

117. Which of the following is NOT a feature of the changing nature of warfare in the post-Cold War period?

(A) Increasing prevalence of intra-state conflicts over interstate wars.
(B) Heavy reliance on cyber warfare and autonomous drones.
(C) The rise of privatized military companies (PMCs).
(D) The total elimination of nuclear weapons from global arsenals.

118. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

Statement I: The enlargement of NATO after the Cold War was welcomed universally as a stabilizing mechanism for global security.

Statement II: Russian foreign policy consistently viewed NATO expansion into Eastern Europe as a major security threat.

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

119. Which of the following is the most appropriate interpretation of the "Democratic Peace Theory" applied to post-Cold War foreign policy?

(A) The belief that democracies are inherently pacifist and never initiate war.
(B) Promoting the spread of democracy will expand the zone of peace, as democracies rarely fight each other.
(C) The idea that democracies only fight wars that are authorized by the United Nations.
(D) The claim that authoritarian regimes are statistically less likely to initiate wars.

120. Which of the following is a key indicator of the shift towards multipolarity in the 21st century?

(A) The total and unexpected collapse of the European Union.
(B) The complete withdrawal of the US from all significant global affairs.
(C) The successful establishment of a unified and global parliament.
(D) The economic rise and military modernization of powers like China and a resurgent Russia.

121. "Economic Globalisation" can be best defined as:

(A) The strict and mandatory enforcement of tariffs and quotas across all global markets.
(B) The increasing integration of national economies through cross-border movement of goods, services, technology, and capital.
(C) The total localization of all industrial manufacturing and production processes.
(D) The complete abolition of physical currency in favor of an international barter system.

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122. Consider the following statements regarding the impact of globalization on culture:

I. It leads to cultural homogenization, often termed "Americanization."
II. It can provoke cultural resistance and a resurgence of local identities.
III. It completely eradicates all local languages within a decade.
IV. It facilitates cultural hybridization or "glocalization."

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

123. Which of the following statements about the World Trade Organization (WTO) is correct?

(A) It was created during the landmark Bretton

Woods conference in 1944.
(B) It provides a framework for negotiating trade agreements and a dispute resolution process.
(C) It exclusively regulates trade and commerce between developing nations.
(D) It has the legal authority to directly tax large multinational corporations.

124. Match List I with List II:
List I: Institutions/Actors
P. Transnational Corporations (TNCs)
Q. IMF
R. NGOs
S. Internet
List II: Role in Globalisation
1. Provides short-term loans to stabilize balance of payments
2. Drives global foreign direct investment and supply chains
3. Facilitates global communication and information flow
4. Advocates for human rights and environmental standards across borders
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

125. The rapid spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on global supply chains is best analyzed as a case of:
(A) The success of protectionist policies.
(B) Complex interdependence creating systemic vulnerabilities.
(C) The obsolescence of medical science.
(D) A deliberate strategy of mutually assured destruction.

126. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): Globalization has severely constrained the macroeconomic policy autonomy of the nation-state.
Reason (R): High capital mobility means states must pursue policies that appease international financial markets to avoid capital flight.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

127. Which of the following is an EXCEPTION to the claimed benefits of economic globalization?
(A) Increased global wealth and efficiency.
(B) Broader access to foreign products and technologies.
(C) Integration of emerging markets into the global economy.
(D) The absolute reduction of income inequality within all states.

128. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The "Race to the Bottom" hypothesis argues that globalization forces states to lower environmental and labor standards to attract foreign investment.
Statement II: Empirical evidence unequivocally proves that all globalized states possess the lowest possible labor standards.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

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129. Which of the following is the most appropriate term for political movements that strongly oppose globalization, advocating for closed borders and economic protectionism?
(A) Cosmopolitanism
(B) Neo-liberalism
(C) Populist Nationalism
(D) Institutionalism

130. Globalization has affected international security?
(A) Disappear entirely due to the rapid development of green technology.
(B) Become localized issues handled exclusively by various municipal governments.
(C) Be systematically ignored by all major international governing institutions.
(D) Evolve into collective action problems

requiring coordinated transnational governance.

131. In the context of Area Studies, what does the term "Regionalism" fundamentally denote?
(A) The political, economic, or security cooperation among states in a specific geographic area.
(B) The planned dissolution of states into smaller and autonomous provincial entities.
(C) The total domination of one state over a specific and large geographic area.
(D) The absolute rejection of all international and regional security treaties.

132. Consider the following statements regarding the evolution of International Relations as a discipline:
I. It formally emerged after World War I to study the causes of war and peace.
II. The first university chair in IR was established at Aberystwyth in 1919.
III. It has always been dominated exclusively by Marxist theories.
IV. The early phase was characterized by Idealism.
V. The discipline experienced a "Great Debate" between Realism and Idealism.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, IV, and V
(B) I, II, III, and IV
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

133. Which statement regarding the impact of the Peace of Westphalia on the Holy Roman Empire?
(A) It successfully centralized power in the hands of the Holy Roman Emperor.
(B) It transformed the Empire into a modern and fully democratic state structure.
(C) It significantly fragmented its political authority, granting sovereignty to hundreds of principalities.
(D) It forced the Empire to adopt Protestantism universally across all territories.

134. Identify the correct pair regarding theoretical approaches and their focus in Area Studies:
(A) Orientalism - Objective, neutral study of Eastern cultures
(B) Modernization Theory - Advocacy for traditional agricultural economies
(C) Realism - Detailed study of domestic cultural nuances
(D) Post-colonialism - Power dynamics and cultural legacies of imperialism

135. What was the primary operational mechanism of the "Balance of Power" within the 19th-century Concert of Europe?
(A) Flexible shifting of alliances to prevent any single power from achieving hegemony.
(B) The total and unilateral disarmament of all the European great powers.
(C) The creation of a permanent and fully integrated European military army.
(D) The ideological unification of the continent under a single religion.

136. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The emergence of nationalism often posed a threat to the stability of 19th-century European empires.
Reason (R): Nationalism encouraged ethnic groups within empires to demand self-determination and independent statehood.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

137. Which of the following is an EXCEPTION to the factors that spurred European imperialism in the late 19th century?
(A) The need for raw materials for industrialization.
(B) The desire for new markets for manufactured goods.
(C) Strategic competition and nationalist prestige among European powers.
(D) The successful establishment of the League of Nations.

138. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: Pre-WWI secret diplomacy was widely praised after the war for preserving

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peace.

Statement II: Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points advocated for "open covenants of peace, openly arrived at" as a reaction against secret diplomacy.

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

139. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of the geopolitical environment immediately preceding WWI?
(A) A highly institutionalized and robust global governance and law system.
(B) A precarious balance managed through rigid, opposing alliance systems and an arms race.
(C) A unipolar system dominated unconditionally by the power of Great Britain.
(D) A fully integrated global capitalist market without any border controls.

140. The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand was a catalyst for WWI. It caused a global conflict primarily because:
(A) It triggered a chain reaction of mobilizations dictated by the rigid alliance systems of the great powers.
(B) He served as the primary head of the League of Nations organization.
(C) It led to the immediate and total collapse of the global stock market.
(D) It prompted the United States to launch an immediate invasion of Europe.

141. "Fascism" in the Inter-War period is characterized by all the following EXCEPT:
(A) Extreme and aggressive nationalism.
(B) Strong advocacy for liberal democracy and individual rights.
(C) Militarism and a focus on aggressive expansionism.
(D) Centralized and authoritarian state control of the economy.

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142. Arrange the following key conferences of WWII in chronological order:
I. Yalta Conference
II. Potsdam Conference
III. Tehran Conference
IV. Atlantic Charter meeting
(A) IV, III, I, II
(B) IV, I, III, II
(C) III, IV, II, I
(D) I, II, III, IV

143. Which of the following statements about the Great Depression is incorrect?
(A) It originated with the stock market crash in the United States in 1929.
(B) It caused severe economic contraction globally.
(C) It led many states to adopt autarkic (self-sufficient) economic policies.
(D) It bolstered the stability of the Weimar Republic in Germany.

144. Match List I with List II:
List I: Inter-War Leaders
P. Woodrow Wilson
Q. Neville Chamberlain
R. Benito Mussolini
S. Gustav Stresemann
List II: Associated Policy/Event
1. Appeasement Policy
2. Fourteen Points
3. Locarno Treaties / Weimar recovery
4. Invasion of Ethiopia
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

145. A scenario where a major power continuously concedes territory to an aggressive state to avoid war is defined as:
(A) Appeasement
(B) Deterrence
(C) Containment
(D) Rollback

146. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

Assertion (A): The Inter-War period represents

a failure of idealist institutionalism.
Reason (R): The League of Nations lacked the mechanism and major power backing to punish aggressive states like Japan and Italy.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

147. Except for one, all of the following treaties were part of the Washington Naval Conference system. Identify the exception.
(A) Four-Power Treaty
(B) Five-Power Treaty
(C) Nine-Power Treaty
(D) Treaty of Rapallo

148. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact (1939) was an alliance based on shared ideological principles between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union.
Statement II: The Pact included secret protocols for the division of Eastern Europe, particularly Poland.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

149. Which of the following is the most appropriate systemic explanation for the outbreak of World War II?
(A) The inherent strength and stability of the global economic system.
(B) The widespread success of various global disarmament treaties.
(C) The active intervention of the United States in European affairs.
(D) The failure of the Versailles settlement to establish a stable balance of power and address the grievances of revisionist states.

150. The transition from a multipolar system in the 1930s to a bipolar system post-WWII was caused fundamentally by:
(A) The formal decision made by the United Nations Security Council members.
(B) The rapid and total decolonization of the entire African continent.
(C) A voluntary and collective treaty signed by all European states.
(D) The economic and military exhaustion of traditional European powers and the emergence of the US and USSR as military super-states.

151. "Bipolarity" conceptually refers to an international system where:
(A) Two distinct states or blocs possess the majority of economic, military, and cultural influence.
(B) Global power is shifted bi-annually between the global North and South.
(C) All states receive two votes within the UN General Assembly sessions.
(D) States possess both military and economic supremacy on an individual basis.

152. Consider the following statements regarding the Truman Doctrine:
I. It was announced in 1947.
II. It provided military and economic aid to Greece and Turkey.
III. It marked a shift in US policy toward isolationism.
IV. It established the guiding principle of Soviet containment.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

153. Which of the following statements about the Marshall Plan is incorrect?
(A) It was officially known as the European Recovery Program.
(B) It aimed to rebuild war-torn European economies to prevent the spread of communism.
(C) The Soviet Union eagerly accepted Marshall Plan aid for Eastern Europe.
(D) It was highly successful in revitalizing

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154. Identify the correct pair regarding Cold War proxy conflicts:
(A) Korean War - Resulted in the reunification of the peninsula.
(B) Soviet-Afghan War - Resulted in a swift Soviet victory and permanent occupation.
(C) Angolan Civil War - Fought exclusively by domestic actors without foreign intervention.
(D) Vietnam War - Resulted in a victory for communist forces.

155. Based on the "Domino Theory" applied to Southeast Asia, US policymakers believed that:
(A) If one country fell to communism, neighboring countries would subsequently fall.
(B) Economic development would eventually cascade across the entire region.
(C) Deccolonization processes should be slowed down drastically by the West.
(D) The Soviet Union would eventually collapse internally due to pressure.

156. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The Cold War never escalated into a direct nuclear war between the US and USSR.
Reason (R): The strategic reality of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) made direct war suicidal.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

157. All of the following were mechanisms of Soviet control over Eastern Europe EXCEPT:
(A) The Warsaw Pact
(B) COMECON
(C) The Brezhnev Doctrine
(D) The Truman Doctrine

158. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The policy of Détente in the 1970s resulted in the SALT I and ABM treaties.
Statement II: Détente ended the Cold War permanently in 1975.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

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159. Which of the following is the most appropriate framework to explain Gorbachev's introduction of "Glasnost"?
(A) A desire to launch a coordinated pre-emptive strike on NATO territories.
(B) An attempt to politically liberalize the Soviet system to encourage transparency and reform.
(C) A strategic strategy to tighten state control over all media outlets.
(D) A detailed plan to immediately and completely dissolve the Soviet Union.

160. The collapse of the Berlin Wall in 1989 directly caused:
(A) The immediate and violent start of the Korean War on the peninsula.
(B) The formal formation of the League of Nations international body.
(C) A severe and rapid tightening of the Warsaw Pact alliance structure.
(D) The reunification of Germany and a wave of democratization across Eastern Europe.

161. In dependency theory, the "Core" refers to:
(A) Developing states that primarily provide raw materials to others.
(B) Advanced, industrialized, wealthy states that dominate the global economy.
(C) International organizations such as the United Nations assembly.
(D) The physical and geographic center of the earth's planetary mass.

162. Consider the following statements regarding Decolonisation:

I. It altered the map of the world drastically between 1945 and 1975.
II. It was entirely a peaceful process without any violent struggles.
III. It led to the creation of the Third World bloc.
IV. It highlighted the principle of self-determination in international law.
V. It often left behind arbitrary borders drawn by colonial powers.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, III, IV, and V
(B) I, II, III, and IV
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, II, IV, and V

163. Which statement correctly identifies a consequence of the post-colonial state-building process?
(A) Immediate and uniform economic prosperity achieved across Africa and Asia.
(B) Challenges of nation-building due to ethnically diverse populations forced into arbitrary borders.
(C) The complete erasure of colonial languages and traditional administrations.
(D) The total and permanent end of all territorial disputes in the Global South.

164. Match List I with List II:
List I: Global South Treaties/Groups
P. G-77
Q. OAU (Organization of African Unity)
R. OPEC
S. ASEAN
List II: Focus
1. Coordination of petroleum policies and prices
2. Regional security and economic integration in Southeast Asia
3. Promoting economic interests of developing countries in the UN
4. Promoting solidarity and ending colonialism in Africa
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(C) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

165. When examining a contemporary issue through the lens of "Neocolonialism," a scholar would most likely examine:
(A) A direct military invasion and the formal annexation of a foreign territory.
(B) The conditionalities attached to IMF structural adjustment loans impacting domestic policies.
(C) The signing of a mutual defense treaty among equal and sovereign powers.
(D) The deployment of United Nations peacekeepers to a regional conflict zone.

166. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The Bandung Conference of 1955 was a significant milestone for Area Studies and International Relations.
Reason (R): It laid the ideological foundation for the Non-Aligned Movement and Afro-Asian solidarity.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

167. Which of the following is an EXCEPTION to the objectives of the New International Economic Order (NIEO)?
(A) Regulation of multinational corporations.
(B) The reinstatement of formal colonial governance in failed states.
(C) Technology transfer from North to South on favorable terms.
(D) Fairer terms of trade for primary commodities.

168. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: Post-colonial states inherently reject all tenets of international law because it was created by European powers.
Statement II: Post-colonial states have actively participated in reshaping international law, such as pushing for the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect

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(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

169. Which of the following is the most appropriate term for states that successfully transitioned from the Global South to high levels of industrialization in the late 20th century?
(A) Fourth World Nations
(B) Newly Industrialized Countries (NICs)
(C) Post-industrial states
(D) Rentier states

170. Economic underdevelopment in many Global South nations is often caused structurally by:
(A) Heavy reliance on the export of a single primary commodity subject to global price volatility.
(B) The over-diversification of their industrial and agricultural exports.
(C) A policy of total isolationism from the global trading and finance system.
(D) The receipt of excessive levels of technology transfer from the North.

171. "Complex Interdependence," formulated by Keohane and Nye, argues that in the post-Cold War world:
(A) Military force serves as the only usable and effective instrument of policy.
(B) Multiple channels connect societies, and military force is not always the primary tool of statecraft.
(C) Sovereign states remain completely and totally independent of one another.
(D) International organizations hold absolute and binding power over all states.

172. Arrange the following major post-Cold War interventions/wars in chronological order:
I. NATO intervention in Libya
II. US-led Gulf War (Operation Desert Storm)
III. US Invasion of Afghanistan
IV. NATO bombing of Yugoslavia
(A) II, IV, III, I
(B) IV, II, I, III
(C) II, III, IV, I
(D) III, II, IV, I

173. Which statement about the "War on Terror" is incorrect?
(A) It reoriented US foreign policy toward combating non-state actors and rogue states.
(B) It led to interventions in Afghanistan and Iraq.
(C) It strictly adhered to the principles of traditional Westphalian sovereignty.
(D) It utilized concepts like pre-emptive strikes.

174. Identify the incorrect pair regarding post-Cold War scholars and theories:
(A) Samuel Huntington - Clash of Civilizations
(B) Francis Fukuyama - End of History
(C) John Mearsheimer - Offensive Realism
(D) Alexander Wendt - Neoliberal Institutionalism

175. Which framework is applied when analyzing a state's decision to intervene in a foreign humanitarian crisis?
(A) Responsibility to Protect (R2P)
(B) Mercantilism
(C) Isolationism
(D) The Brezhnev Doctrine

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176. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The post-Cold War era witnessed a significant resurgence of ethno-nationalist conflicts.
Reason (R): The collapse of authoritarian Cold War structures unleashed suppressed historical and ethnic grievances, particularly in Eastern Europe and Africa.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

177. Except for one, all of the following are recognized features of the "New World Order" initially envisioned by George H.W. Bush. Identify the exception.
(A) Stronger international law and UN cooperation.
(B) Collective security against aggression.

(C) The permanent division of Europe into rival ideological spheres.
(D) Promotion of democracy and free markets.

178. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The expansion of the European Union in the 2000s aimed to consolidate democracy and market economies in former communist states.
Statement II: The expansion process required candidate states to fulfill the "Copenhagen Criteria."
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

179. Which of the following is the most appropriate explanation for the rise of "soft balancing" in the post-Cold War unipolar system?
(A) Secondary states using military alliances to launch direct attacks on the hegemon.
(B) States using international institutions, economic statecraft, and diplomatic arrangements to delay or frustrate the hegemon's policies.
(C) The complete and total surrender of sovereignty to the unipolar superpower.
(D) The global and permanent abolition of all national armed military forces.

180. The failure of state structures in places like Somalia and Yugoslavia during the 1990s caused the international community to grapple with the challenge of:
(A) Managing intense superpower arms races.
(B) Rebuilding the historic Berlin Wall.
(C) Establishing a new system of formal colonialism.
(D) Dealing with "failed states" and complex humanitarian emergencies.

181. "Glocalization" refers to:
(A) The erasure of local culture.
(B) The adaptation of global ideas into local contexts.
(C) The dominance of global markets.
(D) The failure of globalization.

182. Consider the following statements on Globalisation:
I. It involves time-space compression.
II. It purely affects the economic realm.
III. It facilitates transnational social movements.
IV. It weakens absolute state control over information.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, III, IV
(B) I, II, III
(C) II, III, IV
(D) I, II, IV

183. Which statement about transnational corporations (TNCs) is correct?
(A) They operate solely within one nation's borders.
(B) They control a significant portion of global trade and investment.
(C) They are legally immune to all national laws.
(D) They primarily serve as charity organizations.

184. Match List I with List II:
List I: Institutions/Concepts
P. Washington Consensus
Q. Anti-globalization movement
R. WTO
S. Global supply chains
List II: Role/Context
1. Battle of Seattle (1999)
2. Neoliberal economic prescriptions
3. Distributed manufacturing
4. Dispute settlement body
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4

185. A state lowering its corporate tax rates to attract global capital is engaging in:
(A) National import substitution.
(B) Economic autarky.
(C) Domestic cultural protectionism.
(D) Regulatory arbitrage or competitive deregulation.

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186. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): Globalisation has sparked an increase in regional trade blocs.
Reason (R): States seek to pool resources to enhance their leverage in the globalized market.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

187. All of the following are dimensions of globalization EXCEPT:
(A) Economic
(B) Cultural
(C) Political
(D) Autarkic

188. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The internet has democratized information flow globally.
Statement II: Authoritarian states completely ignore the internet as a tool of control.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

189. Which of the following is the most appropriate measure of a state's integration into the global economy?
(A) Its military budget.
(B) The ratio of its trade to its GDP.
(C) Its population size.
(D) Its geographic area.

190. High levels of financial globalization have caused:
(A) Achieving complete global economic stability.
(B) Increased vulnerability to rapid transnational financial contagion.
(C) The total obsolescence of the US dollar.
(D) The elimination of national central banks.

191. "Civic Nationalism" defines the nation based on:
(A) Adherence to a set of political values and laws.
(B) Shared ancestral bloodlines and ethnicity.
(C) Adherence to a specific religious affiliation.
(D) Achieving total linguistic uniformity.

192. Arrange the following eras of International Relations in chronological order:
I. Pre-WWI System (Concert of Europe)
II. Inter-War Period
III. Cold War
IV. Post-Cold War Unipolarity
(A) I, II, III, IV
(B) I, III, II, IV
(C) II, I, III, IV
(D) II, III, I, IV

193. Which statement regarding the Treaty of Westphalia is incorrect?
(A) It legitimized the sovereign state as the primary actor.
(B) It established non-intervention in domestic affairs.
(C) It weakened the Holy Roman Empire.
(D) It successfully ended all religious conflicts permanently.

194. Identify the incorrect pair regarding nationalism:
(A) Primordialism - Nations are ancient and natural
(B) Modernism - Nations are products of industrialization
(C) Civic Nationalism - Inclusive citizenship model
(D) Ethno-symbolism - Nations are purely modern inventions with no roots in the past

195. To analyze the spread of national identity through standardized education, one applies the theory of which scholar?
(A) Ernest Gellner
(B) Kenneth Waltz
(C) Hans Morgenthau
(D) John Locke

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196. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The Congress of Vienna (1815) established a stable multipolar order.
Reason (R): It successfully integrated a defeated France back into the great power system.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

197. All of the following were part of the Concert of Europe EXCEPT:
(A) Great Britain
(B) Russia
(C) United States
(D) Austria

198. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The balance of power system requires at least one state to act as a balancer.
Statement II: Britain frequently played the role of the balancer in 19th-century Europe.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

199. Which of the following is the most appropriate term for the late 19th-century competition for colonies?
(A) Neo-colonialism
(B) Decolonization
(C) Supranationalism
(D) New Imperialism

200. The rigidity of alliances prior to WWI caused:
(A) Strategic flexibility.
(B) The localization of the Balkan conflict.
(C) The success of collective security.
(D) A chain reaction dragging all major powers into war.

201. "Totalitarianism" in the Inter-War period implies:
(A) A state attempting total control over public and private life.
(B) A state with no centralized or unified power structure.
(C) A decentralized and fully democratic political system.
(D) A strict and total adherence to free-market capitalism.

202. Consider the following statements about the League of Nations:
I. It was headquartered in Geneva.
II. It possessed a powerful independent military force.
III. It relied on economic sanctions and moral suasion.
IV. It failed to stop the Italian invasion of Ethiopia.
V. It was the precursor to the United Nations.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, III, IV, V
(B) I, II, III, V
(C) II, III, IV, V
(D) I, II, IV, V

203. Which statement about the Inter-War economy is correct?
(A) It was a period of uninterrupted global prosperity.
(B) The Gold Standard was successfully maintained by all nations.
(C) Global trade doubled during the 1930s.
(D) Protectionism and hyperinflation severely destabilized democracies.

204. Match List I with List II:
List I: Inter-War Crises
P. Manchurian Crisis
Q. Abyssinian Crisis
R. Spanish Civil War
S. Munich Conference
List II: Year
1. 1931
2. 1935
3. 1936-1939
4. 1938
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

(D) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4

205. The Munich Agreement of 1938 is often cited as a strategic failure of which policy?
(A) Containment
(B) Deterrence
(C) Rollback
(D) Appeasement

206. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The failure of the League of Nations led to the rise of classical realism in IR theory.
Reason (R): Scholars argued that utopian ideals ignored the realities of human nature and power politics.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

207. All of the following contributed to the outbreak of WWII EXCEPT:
(A) The harshness of the Versailles Treaty.
(B) The aggressive expansionism of Axis powers.
(C) The failure of collective security.
(D) The success of the Disarmament Conference of 1932.

208. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The Soviet Union fought on the side of the Axis powers for the entirety of WWII.
Statement II: The Soviet Union switched to the Allied side after being invaded by Germany in 1941.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

209. Which of the following is the most appropriate term for states dissatisfied with the status quo?
(A) Status quo powers
(B) Revisionist powers
(C) Hegemonic powers
(D) Neutral powers

210. The economic devastation of the Inter-War period caused:
(A) A massive resurgence of free-market globalization policies.
(B) The immediate and total decolonization of global empires.
(C) The significant strengthening of the League of Nations' power.
(D) The rise of economic nationalism and competitive devaluations.

211. "Deterrence" relies primarily on:
(A) Strategically appeasing an opponent's various demands.
(B) The pursuit of unilateral and total disarmament.
(C) The imposition of comprehensive economic sanctions.
(D) The credible threat of unacceptable retaliation.

212. Arrange the following Cold War events chronologically:
I. Launch of Sputnik
II. Cuban Missile Crisis
III. Truman Doctrine
IV. Fall of the Berlin Wall
(A) III, I, II, IV
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) III, II, I, IV
(D) II, III, I, IV

213. Which statement about the Warsaw Pact is incorrect?
(A) It was created in response to West Germany joining NATO.
(B) It was heavily dominated by the Soviet Union.
(C) It was dissolved after the Cold War.
(D) It was entirely a voluntary alliance of equal partners.

214. Identify the incorrect pair regarding Cold War arms control:

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(A) NPT - Non-Proliferation Treaty
(B) SALT - Strategic Arms Limitation Talks
(C) ABM - Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty
(D) MAD - Mutual Agreement on Disarmament

215. Applying game theory to the nuclear arms race, the situation where both sides build weapons out of fear, making both less secure, is known as:
(A) The Security Dilemma
(B) The Democratic Peace
(C) Complex Interdependence
(D) Soft Balancing

216. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): Decolonisation shifted the focus of international politics toward North-South dynamics.
Reason (R): Newly independent states sought to address structural economic inequalities in the global system.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

217. All of the following are characteristics of the Global South EXCEPT:
(A) Historical experience of colonialism.
(B) Advocacy for a New International Economic Order.
(C) Utilization of South-South cooperation.
(D) Membership in the G-8.

218. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The dependency theory posits that underdevelopment is an original state that can be overcome by modernization.
Statement II: Dependency theory argues that underdevelopment is an active process caused by unequal integration into the global capitalist system.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

219. Which of the following is the most appropriate body for advancing Global South economic demands within the UN framework?
(A) NATO
(B) The Security Council
(C) The IMF
(D) UNCTAD

220. The end of the Cold War caused international relations to:
(A) Become solely focused on bipolar deterrence.
(B) Revert to the Concert of Europe system.
(C) Abandon the United Nations entirely.
(D) Grapple with issues of globalization, regionalism, and intra-state conflict.

221. "Human Security," a concept popularized post-Cold War, shifts the referent object of security from:
(A) The state to the individual.
(B) The individual to the state.
(C) The military to the economy.
(D) The UN to regional bodies.

222. Consider the following statements on Post-Cold War changes:
I. Rise in peacekeeping operations.
II. Expansion of international criminal law.
III. Decrease in economic globalization.
IV. Emergence of the unipolar moment.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, IV
(B) I, II, III
(C) II, III, IV
(D) I, III, IV

223. Which statement about the "Clash of Civilizations" thesis is incorrect?
(A) It was originally proposed by the scholar Samuel Huntington.
(B) It emphasizes cultural and religious fault lines as drivers.
(C) It emerged in the context of the immediate post-Cold War era.
(D) It argues that future conflicts will be

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primarily economic and ideological.

224. Match List I with List II:
List I: Power Structure
P. Unipolarity
Q. Bipolarity
R. Multipolarity
S. Non-polarity
List II: Era/Context
1. Cold War era
2. Concert of Europe
3. Immediate Post-Cold War era
4. Networked world with numerous influential actors
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

225. The analysis of the impact of global pandemics on state sovereignty focuses on which of the following?
(A) Transnational threats and governance.
(B) Traditional geopolitics.
(C) Strategic nuclear deterrence.
(D) Formal military alliances.

226. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): Globalisation limits the ability of states to control information.
Reason (R): Advancements in digital technology allow immediate cross-border data flows.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

227. All are associated with economic globalization EXCEPT:
(A) Capital mobility
(B) Foreign Direct Investment
(C) Trade liberalization
(D) Import Substitution Industrialization

228. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The WTO possesses a dispute settlement mechanism that issues binding rulings.
Statement II: States completely ignore WTO rulings because they have no impact.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

229. Which of the following is the most appropriate example of regional economic integration responding to globalization?
(A) The Warsaw Pact
(B) The European Union
(C) The League of Nations
(D) The Non-Aligned Movement

230. Widespread environmental degradation caused by transnational industrial activity highlights:
(A) The success of autarky.
(B) The irrelevance of environmental science.
(C) The decline of international organizations.
(D) The Tragedy of the Commons on a global scale.

231. "Supranationalism" implies:
(A) An authority that transcends national borders, to which states delegate some sovereignty.
(B) States giving up entirely on all forms of governance.
(C) A highly nationalistic and isolationist state policy.
(D) The absolute and total rejection of international law.

232. Consider the following statements on international systems:
I. Westphalia codified state sovereignty.
II. The Inter-War period saw robust global economic growth.
III. The Cold War featured proxy conflicts.
IV. Deccolonization expanded the UN membership.

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Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, III, IV
(B) I, II, III
(C) II, III, IV
(D) I, II, IV

233. Which statement about the Global South's role in the UN is correct?
(A) They hold a permanent veto in the Security Council as a unified bloc.
(B) They are excluded from all UN specialized agencies.
(C) They primarily advocate for increased nuclear proliferation.
(D) They use the General Assembly to articulate norms and development goals.

234. Identify the incorrect pair regarding foreign policy doctrines:
(A) Brezhnev Doctrine - Right to intervene in socialist states
(B) Monroe Doctrine - European non-intervention in the Americas
(C) Truman Doctrine - Containment of communism
(D) Nixon Doctrine - Massive deployment of US ground troops in Asia

235. The shift of a state from a command economy to integration with global markets is a reflection of which phenomenon?
(A) Neoliberal Globalisation
(B) Economic Nationalism
(C) Dependency
(D) Protectionism

236. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): Area Studies grew rapidly during the Cold War.
Reason (R): Superpowers needed specialized knowledge of different regions to formulate strategic and foreign policies.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

237. All of the following are theories explaining the end of the Cold War EXCEPT:
(A) Soviet economic overextension
(B) The role of key leaders like Gorbachev and Reagan
(C) The ideational shift brought by "New Thinking"
(D) The sudden military collapse of the United States

238. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: The Post-Cold War period saw the undisputed rise of China as a systemic challenger to US hegemony.
Statement II: This dynamic is often analyzed through the lens of the "Thucydides Trap."
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

239. Which of the following is the most appropriate characterization of contemporary global governance?
(A) A centralized and unified world government structure.
(B) A full return to the system of classical empires.
(C) An absolute condition of permanent Hobbesian anarchy.
(D) A fragmented system of states, institutions, and non-state actors.

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240. The structural shift from industrial capitalism to digital information networks has caused:
(A) The rise of data as a critical strategic and economic resource in international relations.
(B) The decline of transnational corporations.
(C) The complete disappearance of the Global North-South divide.
(D) The obsolescence of state security agencies.

241. "Revisionism" in state behavior refers to:
(A) Adhering strictly to all international and regional treaties.

(B) Seeking to alter the existing distribution of power and rules of the international system.
(C) Maintaining and defending the established global status quo.
(D) Promoting the process of total and unilateral disarmament.

242. Arrange the following international relations paradigms in the order of their historical emergence and prominence:
I. Utopianism/Idealism
II. Classical Realism
III. Neorealism/Neoliberalism
IV. Social Constructivism
(A) I, II, III, IV
(B) II, I, III, IV
(C) I, III, II, IV
(D) II, III, I, IV

243. Which statement about the "Global South" concept is correct?
(A) It strictly and exclusively represents geographical location.
(B) It includes only nations located on the African continent.
(C) It was a term originally coined by the Soviet Union leadership.
(D) It is a political and socio-economic construct replacing the term 'Third World'.

244. Match List I with List II:
List I: Treaty/Conference
P. Westphalia
Q. Vienna
R. Versailles
S. San Francisco
List II: Outcome/Institution
1. Created the UN
2. Established sovereignty
3. Created the Concert of Europe
4. Created the League of Nations
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

245. Which of the following concepts are applied when analyzing the impact of multinational corporations (MNCs) on global governance?
(A) Transnationalism and complex interdependence
(B) Classical Realism
(C) Isolationism
(D) Bipolarity

246. The following question consists of two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other labeled as Reason (R). Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Assertion (A): The post-Cold War era is heavily characterized by the phenomenon of globalization.
Reason (R): The collapse of the Soviet bloc integrated formerly closed economies into the global capitalist market.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

247. All of the following are significant actors in post-Cold War international relations EXCEPT:
(A) International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs)
(B) Transnational Terrorist Networks
(C) Multinational Corporations (MNCs)
(D) The Holy Roman Empire

248. Given below are two statements. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
Statement I: Globalisation implies an end to territorial borders.
Statement II: Despite globalization, borders remain crucial for regulating migration and security.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

249. Which of the following is the most appropriate explanation for why globalization causes inequality between states?
(A) Advanced economies capture more value from high-tech and financial services compared to resource-exporting states.

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(B) Developing nations consistently refuse to engage in global trade.
(C) International law formally bans developing states from industrializing.
(D) The UN distributes global wealth in a completely random manner.

250. The interplay between local resistance movements and global economic institutions highlights what relationship in contemporary International Relations?
(A) Globalisation causes uniform prosperity, effectively ending all local resistance.
(B) Policies of global institutions often cause local socio-economic disruptions, sparking grassroots pushback.
(C) Resistance movements cause the immediate and total collapse of global institutions.
(D) Global institutions cause sovereign states to immediately abandon all sovereignty.

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In the systematic study of the evolution of International Relations and Area Studies, the foundational phase is often characterised by the emergence of nation states and nationalism. An academic inquiry into this era reveals a structural shift in political organisation where loyalty transferred from fragmented entities to cohesive, territorially defined nation states. Researchers examining this evolution note that nationalism acted as the primary ideological catalyst, binding populations under a shared identity and enabling the consolidation of state authority. In a specific case study of early modern state formation, analysts observed that the emergence of nation states fundamentally restructured diplomatic interactions, creating a system where sovereign entities recognised mutual boundaries. This structural transformation was not merely administrative but deeply ideological, as nationalism provided the necessary legitimacy for the state to exert control over its populace and engage in international politics. Consequently, Area Studies scholars emphasise that understanding contemporary regional dynamics requires tracing the roots back to how nationalism originally shaped these early territorial boundaries. The shift towards nation states thereby established the basic architectural framework for all subsequent developments in the evolution of International Relations, setting the stage for complex interstate systems.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

251. According to the passage, what acted as the primary ideological catalyst in the foundational phase of International Relations?
(A) The creation of complex interstate systems
(B) The concept of shared nationalism
(C) The emergence of administrative boundaries
(D) The development of early modern states

252. What structural shift in political organisation is highlighted by researchers studying this era?
(A) Loyalty transfer from fragmented entities to territorially defined states
(B) The transition from early modern state formation to complex interstate alliances
(C) The replacement of ideological legitimacy with purely administrative functions
(D) The rejection of mutual boundaries in favour of fragmented political entities

253. How did the emergence of nation states fundamentally restructure diplomatic interactions in the observed case study?
(A) By eliminating the need for state authority over fragmented populations
(B) By removing ideological influences from the realm of international politics
(C) The recognition of mutual boundaries by sovereign entities
(D) By bypassing traditional regional dynamics in favour of global systems

254. What necessary function did nationalism provide for the state during this structural transformation?
(A) It created a purely administrative framework devoid of any ideological boundaries
(B) It fragmented the shared identity of populations to prevent interstate systems
(C) It ensured that mutual boundaries were ignored in early modern state formation
(D) Legitimacy to exert control and engage in international politics

255. Why do Area Studies scholars emphasise tracing the roots back to early nationalism?

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(A) To prove that fragmented entities are superior to territorial boundaries
(B) To demonstrate that diplomatic interactions require no ideological catalyst
(C) To understand how contemporary regional dynamics were originally shaped
(D) To show that the architectural framework of states was purely accidental

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Building upon the foundational emergence of nation states, the evolution of International Relations transitioned into the Pre-World War I International System. In an academic case evaluation of this specific period, theorists identify a highly rigid and competitive structure characterising international politics before the first global conflict. The Pre-World War I International System was deeply influenced by the preceding currents of nationalism, which had by now intensified into competitive state behaviour. Area Studies experts analysing this epoch observe that diplomatic engagements were predominantly structured around precarious balances of power among major nation states. In evaluating historical policy documents from this era, a researcher would note that the international system lacked flexible conflict-resolution mechanisms, making the structural environment highly volatile. The interactions during the Pre-World War I International System demonstrate how the unchecked advancement of state-centric nationalism created friction points across different regions. This period essentially serves as a critical case study for understanding how systemic rigidity within international politics can precipitate global crises. The architectural flaws of the Pre-World War I International System ultimately necessitated a complete re-evaluation of how international relations were conducted in subsequent historical periods.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

256. How is the Pre-World War I International System characterised in the academic case evaluation?
(A) As an era possessing highly flexible conflict-resolution mechanisms
(B) As a highly rigid and competitive structure in international politics
(C) As a period devoid of nationalism and state-centric competitive behaviour
(D) As a system primarily focused on dismantling historical nation states

257. What preceding current deeply influenced the Pre-World War I International System?
(A) The formal establishment of flexible international conflict resolution
(B) The visible decline of competitive state behavior among new nations
(C) The deliberate architectural restructuring of historical regional friction
(D) Nationalism intensifying into competitive state behavior

258. According to Area Studies experts, how were diplomatic engagements predominantly structured during this epoch?
(A) Around precarious balances of power among major nation states
(B) Around successful and flexible conflict-resolution mechanisms
(C) Around the mutual dismantling of unchecked state-centric nationalism
(D) Around the immediate re-evaluation of global diplomatic relations

259. What critical absence made the structural environment of this era highly volatile?
(A) The lack of foundational nation states and competitive behaviour
(B) The lack of unchecked advancement in international friction points
(C) The lack of flexible conflict-resolution mechanisms in the system
(D) The lack of precarious balances of power among global competitors

260. What did the architectural flaws of the Pre-World War I International System ultimately necessitate?
(A) A complete re-evaluation of how international relations were conducted
(B) The continuation of systemic rigidity in global diplomatic interactions
(C) The promotion of unchecked advancement in state-centric nationalism
(D) A return to the fragmented political entities of previous historical eras

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Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Following the collapse of the Pre-World War I International System, the evolution of International Relations entered the highly transitional Inter-War Period. An academic analysis of this specific timeframe reveals an international landscape struggling to establish durable stability between major global conflicts. In a case study examining diplomatic frameworks of the Inter-War Period, scholars note the profound tension between residual competitive nationalism and emerging attempts at collective security. International politics during this era were characterised by a fundamental fragility, as the mechanisms designed to prevent future conflicts proved inadequate against the persistent ambitions of aggressive nation states. Area Studies researchers evaluating the Inter-War Period highlight that the failure to establish a cohesive international system allowed regional instabilities to fester and eventually escalate. The study of this period illustrates how the unresolved structural deficiencies from previous eras continually undermined international cooperation. Consequently, the Inter-War Period is often classified by theorists as a critical gap in the evolution of International Relations, demonstrating the severe consequences of transitional instability and the inability of states to successfully navigate the complex demands of sustained global peace.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

261. How is the international landscape of the Inter-War Period described in the academic analysis?
(A) As an era that successfully established sustained global peace
(B) As a timeframe completely devoid of competitive national ambitions
(C) As a period where collective security entirely replaced regional instability
(D) As a landscape struggling to establish durable stability between conflicts

262. What profound tension do scholars note in their case study of the Inter-War Period?
(A) The tension between collective security and cohesive international systems
(B) Tension between residual nationalism and collective security
(C) The tension between durable stability and successful conflict prevention
(D) The tension between transitional instability and structural deficiencies

263. Why were international politics during this era characterised by a fundamental fragility?
(A) Because aggressive nation states abandoned their competitive ambitions completely
(B) Because previous structural deficiencies were successfully resolved by states
(C) Because conflict-prevention mechanisms proved inadequate against state ambitions
(D) Because regional instabilities were entirely prevented from festering and escalating

264. What was the consequence of the failure to establish a cohesive international system during the Inter-War Period?
(A) It allowed residual attempts at collective security to dominate global politics
(B) It ensured the permanent resolution of preceding systemic vulnerabilities
(C) It enabled aggressive nation states to transition smoothly to durable stability
(D) It allowed regional instabilities to fester and eventually escalate further

265. How do theorists often classify the Inter-War Period in the evolution of International Relations?
(A) A gap showing transitional instability
(B) A period defined by perfect cohesive global cooperation
(C) As the final culmination of sustained global peace
(D) As the definitive end to aggressive nation states

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The structural failures of the Inter-War Period eventually led to a new paradigm in the evolution of International Relations, distinctly identifiable as the Post-World War II Period, predominantly characterised by the Cold War. In a theoretical case assessment of this era, international politics were fundamentally reorganised around a rigid, bipolar global structure. Academic observers of the Post-World War II Period note that the

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international system was no longer defined merely by fragmented nationalism, but rather by comprehensive ideological divisions that impacted all regions studied within Area Studies. The Cold War dynamics dictated that international relations operated under a constant state of elevated tension and strategic deterrence between competing global blocs. Researchers analysing the Post-World War II Period demonstrate how this bipolarity suppressed traditional multi-state competition, replacing it with proxy engagements and ideological alignments. This period reshaped international politics by forcing states to navigate a system where local and regional issues were immediately absorbed into the overarching Cold War framework. Consequently, the Post-World War II Period remains a central focus for scholars investigating how structural bipolarity comprehensively dictates global diplomatic behaviour and systemic stability.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

266. What distinctly identifies the new paradigm of the Post-World War II Period in International Relations?
(A) A return to fragmented nationalism without global alliances
(B) A predominance of the Cold War and a rigid, bipolar structure
(C) The total elimination of ideological divisions in all studied regions
(D) A flexible global system devoid of elevated tension and deterrence

267. How did comprehensive ideological divisions alter the international system according to academic observers?
(A) They ensured that traditional multi-state competition thrived independently
(B) They replaced the system defined merely by fragmented nationalism
(C) They disconnected local and regional issues from the global framework
(D) They prevented international relations from reorganising around bipolarity

268. Under the Cold War dynamics, what constant state characterised international relations?
(A) Elevated tension and strategic deterrence between global blocs
(B) Absolute global harmony and the absence of proxy engagements
(C) Unrestricted multi-state competition without ideological alignments
(D) The immediate decentralisation of global diplomatic behaviour

269. How did bipolarity affect traditional multi-state competition during this period?
(A) It amplified traditional multi-state competition globally
(B) It isolated it entirely from overarching ideological divisions
(C) It suppressed it, replacing it with proxy engagements
(D) It transformed it into comprehensive systemic stability

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270. What happened to local and regional issues during the Post-World War II Period?
(A) They were resolved primarily through fragmented nationalism
(B) They remained completely unaffected by the bipolar structure
(C) They were isolated to prevent interference from competing blocs
(D) Absorption into the overarching Cold War framework

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Concurrently with the Cold War, the evolution of International Relations was profoundly transformed by the process of decolonisation and the subsequent emergence of the Global South in international politics. An academic case study of this transformation illustrates a monumental shift wherein formerly marginalised territories achieved sovereignty, thereby radically expanding the number of participating nation states. Researchers of Area Studies emphasise that decolonisation was not merely a transfer of administrative power, but a systemic reorganisation that introduced the Global South as a distinct and critical collective actor in international politics. These newly independent states actively sought to redefine an international system that had historically excluded their interests. The integration of the Global South into international politics challenged existing power structures and brought issues of developmental

disparity and equitable representation to the forefront of global diplomacy. In evaluating this era, analysts conclude that decolonisation fundamentally altered the demographic and political composition of the international community. The emergence of the Global South thereby required established powers to continuously adjust their diplomatic strategies to accommodate the diverse demands of a truly globalised political arena.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

271. What monumental shift is illustrated by the academic case study of decolonisation?
(A) The reduction of participating nation states in international politics
(B) The transfer of administrative power without any systemic reorganisation
(C) Marginalised territories achieving sovereignty
(D) The elimination of the Global South as a collective actor in diplomacy

272. How do Area Studies researchers view the process of decolonisation?
(A) As merely a transfer of administrative power between established states
(B) Reorganising to include the Global South as a collective actor
(C) As a movement that reinforced historically exclusive power structures
(D) As a phenomenon completely disconnected from international politics

273. What did the newly independent states actively seek to achieve in international politics?
(A) To return to the marginalised status they held prior to achieving sovereignty
(B) To avoid equitable representation and focus solely on administrative power
(C) To isolate themselves entirely from the globalised political arena
(D) Redefining a system that had historically excluded their interests

274. Which issues were brought to the forefront of global diplomacy by the integration of the Global South?
(A) Issues of developmental disparity and equitable representation
(B) The expansion of traditional bipolar strategic deterrence
(C) The preservation of demographic exclusivity in the international community
(D) The consolidation of historically exclusionary diplomatic strategies

275. What was the consequent requirement for established powers following the emergence of the Global South?
(A) To completely abandon global diplomacy and retreat to isolationism
(B) To suppress the political composition of the international community
(C) To continuously adjust diplomatic strategies to accommodate diverse demands
(D) To maintain existing power structures without any systemic reorganisation

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

With the eventual dissolution of the bipolar structure, the evolution of International Relations transitioned into the Post-Cold War International Relations phase. An institutional case analysis of this period highlights the rapid dismantling of the ideological divides that had previously defined the Post-World War II Period. Researchers studying Post-Cold War International Relations observe a complex shift from predictable bipolarity to a more fluid and multifaceted international system. In this new landscape, international politics were no longer exclusively dominated by the strategic standoff of the Cold War, allowing for the re-emergence of diverse regional dynamics within Area Studies. The Post-Cold War International Relations era necessitated a comprehensive recalibration of diplomatic frameworks, as states navigated an environment characterised by new security challenges and shifting power distributions. Analysts note that this period witnessed an optimistic expectation for cooperative international politics, though this was frequently complicated by resurfacing nationalist sentiments and regional instabilities. Ultimately, the study of Post-Cold War International Relations provides crucial insights into how the international community adapts to the sudden removal of long-standing structural constraints and attempts to forge new paradigms of global stability.

Based on the above source, attempt the following

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five questions.

276. What significant transition marked the beginning of the Post-Cold War International Relations phase?
(A) The eventual dissolution of the bipolar structure
(B) The reinforcement of the Post-World War II ideological divides
(C) The absolute elimination of all diverse regional dynamics
(D) The return to predictable bipolarity in international politics

277. How do researchers describe the shift observed in the Post-Cold War International Relations landscape?
(A) A shift from a fluid system to a rigid, predictable bipolarity
(B) A shift away from multifaceted international politics towards stagnation
(C) A shift from diverse regional dynamics to exclusive strategic standoffs
(D) A shift from bipolarity to a multifaceted system

278. What re-emerged as international politics were no longer exclusively dominated by the Cold War strategic standoff?
(A) The predictable structural constraints of historical bipolarity
(B) Diverse regional dynamics studied within Area Studies
(C) The rigid dismantling of all local and international diplomatic frameworks
(D) The complete eradication of shifting power distributions

279. What frequently complicated the optimistic expectation for cooperative international politics during this era?
(A) The persistence of the Post-World War II ideological divides
(B) The sudden installation of long-standing structural constraints
(C) Resurfacing nationalist sentiments and regional instabilities
(D) The lack of any new security challenges in the global landscape

280. What crucial insight does the study of Post-Cold War International Relations provide?
(A) How states manage to permanently suppress resurfacing nationalist sentiments
(B) How shifting power distributions immediately secure cooperative global politics
(C) How ideological divides always result in predictable and fluid diplomacy
(D) Adaptation to the sudden removal of structural constraints

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

As Post-Cold War International Relations continued to develop, the evolution of the global system became increasingly defined by the profound impact of globalisation. An academic inquiry into a contemporary case scenario reveals how the impact of globalisation has fundamentally altered the traditional boundaries and functional capabilities of nation states. In the realm of international politics and Area Studies, researchers observe that globalisation accelerates economic, cultural, and political interconnectedness to unprecedented levels. This dynamic challenges the conventional understanding of state sovereignty, as trans-border flows of information and capital frequently bypass traditional state control mechanisms. The impact of globalisation necessitates that states continuously adapt their domestic and foreign policies to respond to external vulnerabilities and global interdependencies. While examining this phenomenon, analysts highlight that globalisation simultaneously offers opportunities for enhanced international cooperation and exacerbates systemic inequalities, particularly affecting the Global South. Consequently, the impact of globalisation has become a central paradigm in contemporary international relations theory, demonstrating how structural interconnectedness reshapes state behaviour, alters regional dynamics, and forces a continuous re-evaluation of what constitutes effective governance in an increasingly borderless international system.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

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281. How has the impact of globalisation fundamentally affected nation states in the contemporary case scenario?
(A) Alteration of traditional boundaries and functional capabilities
(B) Strengthening of traditional boundaries and functional capabilities
(C) It has eliminated the need for domestic and foreign policy adaptations
(D) It has isolated the economic and cultural development of nation states

282. What specific dynamic challenges the conventional understanding of state sovereignty according to the passage?
(A) The absolute prevention of systemic inequalities affecting the Global South
(B) Trans-border flows of capital bypassing state control
(C) The restriction of trans-border flows of information and capital
(D) The complete rejection of economic and political interconnectedness

283. What does the impact of globalisation necessitate from nation states?
(A) The immediate cessation of external vulnerabilities and interdependencies
(B) A continuous adaptation of their domestic and foreign policies
(C) The rejection of enhanced international cooperation opportunities
(D) The establishment of strictly borderless domestic control mechanisms

284. How does the passage describe the dual effects of globalisation highlighted by analysts?
(A) Opportunities for cooperation plus systemic inequalities
(B) It eliminates structural interconnectedness while expanding state sovereignty
(C) It solely exacerbates systemic inequalities without any cooperative opportunities
(D) It entirely benefits the Global South by restricting unprecedented interconnectedness

285. In contemporary international relations theory, what does globalisation demonstrate regarding effective governance?
(A) It proves that governance requires the complete rejection of interconnectedness
(B) It confirms that traditional state control mechanisms cannot be altered
(C) It forces a continuous re-evaluation of what constitutes effective governance
(D) It shows that reshaping state behaviour guarantees the end of systemic inequalities

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A critical dimension in the evolution of International Relations and Area Studies is the ongoing intersection between historical decolonisation and the contemporary strategic positioning of the Global South in international politics. An analytical case review demonstrates that the legacy of decolonisation continues to heavily influence how states within the Global South navigate the modern international system. Researchers observe that these states frequently utilise their shared historical experiences of decolonisation to foster collective solidarity in international politics. This strategic cohesion aims to counterbalance the dominant influence of traditionally powerful nation states. In evaluating diplomatic negotiations, it becomes evident that the Global South consistently advocates for systemic reforms that address historical inequities originating prior to decolonisation. Area Studies experts note that international relations theory must therefore incorporate the enduring impacts of these historical transitions to accurately interpret present-day alliances and voting blocs. The sustained influence of decolonisation processes ensures that the Global South remains a transformative force, continuously pushing the boundaries of international politics toward more inclusive frameworks and challenging the residual hierarchies of earlier international systems.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

286. What continues to heavily influence how states within the Global South navigate the modern international system?
(A) The dominant influence of traditional systemic inequalities
(B) The exclusive promotion of residual hierarchies
(C) The deliberate rejection of present-day alliances

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(D) The ongoing legacy of historical decolonisation

287. For what purpose do states in the Global South utilise their shared historical experiences?
(A) To isolate themselves from diplomatic negotiations in international politics
(B) To reinforce the historical inequities originating prior to decolonisation
(C) Fostering solidarity to counterbalance powerful nation states
(D) To dismantle collective solidarity in favour of individual systemic reforms

288. What does the Global South consistently advocate for during diplomatic negotiations?
(A) The preservation of residual hierarchies in international systems
(B) Systemic reforms to address historical inequities
(C) The expansion of dominant influences over Area Studies experts
(D) The establishment of exclusive frameworks restricted to powerful nation states

289. Why must international relations theory incorporate the enduring impacts of historical transitions?
(A) To ensure the permanent exclusion of the Global South from global diplomacy
(B) To demonstrate that the legacy of decolonisation holds no strategic relevance
(C) To justify the ongoing dominance of traditional international political models
(D) To accurately interpret present-day alliances and voting blocs

290. According to the passage, the sustained influence of decolonisation ensures that the Global South acts as what type of force?
(A) A transformative, boundary-pushing force
(B) A regressive force promoting residual hierarchies
(C) An isolated force avoiding inclusive frameworks
(D) A dominant force maintaining historical inequities

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The systemic transition from the Post-World War II Period (Cold War) to Post-Cold War International Relations represents one of the most significant paradigm shifts in the evolution of International Relations. A methodological case study of this transition reveals how the sudden collapse of rigid bipolarity forced a complete reassessment of international politics and Area Studies. During the Post-World War II Period, international relations were tightly constrained by the overarching Cold War competition, which dictated alliance structures and suppressed independent regional conflicts. However, the advent of Post-Cold War International Relations rapidly removed these constraints, leading to a highly unpredictable international environment. Analysts observing this transition highlight that states had to quickly abandon long-held Cold War strategic postures and develop new foreign policy doctrines suitable for a multipolar or unipolar world. This transitional phase demonstrated the profound vulnerability of the international system when foundational structural pillars are unexpectedly removed. Consequently, researchers emphasise that studying the shift into Post-Cold War International Relations is essential for understanding how quickly international politics can reorganise and how states manage systemic uncertainty in the absence of established ideological divides.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

291. What forced a complete reassessment of international politics and Area Studies during this transition?
(A) The reinforcement of independent regional conflicts
(B) The overarching suppression of strategic postures
(C) The sudden collapse of rigid bipolarity
(D) The establishment of long-held ideological divides

292. How did the Cold War competition affect independent regional conflicts during the Post-World War II Period?
(A) It suppressed them by constraining international relations
(B) It actively amplified and expanded them across regions
(C) It isolated them from dictated alliance

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structures entirely
(D) It utilised them to develop new foreign policy doctrines

293. What characterized the international environment immediately following the removal of Cold War constraints?
(A) A highly predictable and stable multipolar structure
(B) A completely secure and unified unipolar foundation
(C) A swift return to rigid and formal bipolar alliances
(D) A highly volatile environment

294. What did states have to quickly develop in response to the advent of Post-Cold War International Relations?
(A) Long-held strategic postures meant to revive the Cold War competition
(B) New foreign policy doctrines suitable for a multipolar or unipolar world
(C) Tightly constrained alliance structures based on rigid bipolarity
(D) Foundational structural pillars to prevent any systemic reorganisation

295. What profound aspect of the international system was demonstrated by this transitional phase?
(A) Its absolute invulnerability to the removal of structural pillars
(B) Its capacity to completely avoid systemic uncertainty without ideological divides
(C) Vulnerability when structural pillars are suddenly removed
(D) Its reluctance to abandon long-held Cold War strategic postures

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In contemporary Area Studies and the broader evolution of International Relations, a highly complex dynamic is observed in the interaction between traditional nationalism and the modern impact of globalisation. An academic case evaluation of this phenomenon illustrates a profound systemic tension within current international politics. While the initial emergence of nation states relied heavily on nationalism to consolidate territorial and political identity, the subsequent impact of globalisation inherently challenges these rigid boundaries through extreme interconnectedness. Researchers note that as globalisation attempts to standardise international systems and reduce state barriers, it frequently triggers reactive surges of nationalism as populations seek to preserve their distinct identities and sovereign control. This dialectical relationship fundamentally shapes modern international politics, creating environments where states must balance the economic necessities of globalisation against the domestic pressures of nationalism. Analysts conclude that understanding the evolution of International Relations today requires acknowledging that the impact of globalisation has not eradicated the foundational concepts of the nation state; rather, it has transformed nationalism into a defensive mechanism against perceived erosions of state sovereignty within a highly integrated global system.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

296. What profound systemic tension is illustrated in the academic case evaluation?
(A) The tension between the reduction of state barriers and the emergence of nation states
(B) The tension between standardising international systems and economic necessities
(C) The tension between dialectical relationships and highly integrated domestic pressures
(D) The tension between traditional nationalism and the modern impact of globalisation

297. How does the impact of globalisation challenge the initial emergence of nation states?
(A) Challenging rigid boundaries via interconnectedness
(B) By reinforcing rigid boundaries and absolute sovereign control
(C) By relying heavily on nationalism to consolidate political identity
(D) By triggering a reduction in economic interconnectedness

298. What frequently happens when globalisation attempts to reduce state barriers?
(A) It entirely rradicates the foundational concepts of the nation state

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(B) Reactive nationalism to preserve distinct identities
(C) It permanently resolves all domestic pressures regarding sovereign control
(D) It completely eliminates the need to balance economic necessities

299. In modern international politics, what two factors must states constantly balance according to the passage?
(A) Reactive surges of interconnectedness and standard international systems
(B) Economic necessities versus domestic nationalism pressures
(C) The emergence of nation states and the eradication of systemic barriers
(D) Territorial identity consolidation and the elimination of sovereign control

300. According to analysts, what has the impact of globalisation transformed nationalism into?
(A) A defensive mechanism against perceived erosions of state sovereignty
(B) A driving force for standardising global economic necessities
(C) A fully integrated system completely devoid of territorial boundaries
(D) An absolute rejection of all modern international political environments

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ANSWERS

1. (B) Treaty of Westphalia
The Peace of Westphalia concluded the Thirty Years' War and fundamentally established the primary principle of state sovereignty. It recognized the formal legal equality of states and their exclusive right to govern internal affairs without outside interference. This significant transition shifted political authority from religious and imperial structures toward territorially defined sovereign units, founding the modern international system.

2. (A) I, II and IV
Nationalism emerged in Europe alongside the decline of feudal structures and the waning influence of universal religious authority. The French Revolution was a pivotal catalyst, introducing the principle of popular sovereignty where political legitimacy resided in the people. While it promoted national unity, ethnic nationalism often sought to align cultural identity with political borders rather than separating them.

3. (C) The principle that a state exerts exclusive authority over a defined geographic area.
Territoriality is a foundational concept where political authority is strictly tied to a clearly defined geographic space. In the context of early nation-states, it established that the state possesses supreme and exclusive legal jurisdiction within its borders. This principle excludes external actors from exercising power within that territory, reinforcing the modern understanding of internal sovereignty and control.

4. (D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Political evolution involved various structures of authority and identity. Feudalism relied on decentralized power linked to land ownership, while sovereignty introduced supreme, independent political authority. Civic nationalism defines identity through shared values and citizenship, whereas ethnic nationalism bases it on heritage and language. Understanding these distinctions is crucial for analyzing how modern states transitioned from medieval arrangements to unified identities.

5. (C) Modernism
The modernist perspective argues that nation-states are relatively recent constructs appearing during the industrial era. This approach emphasizes that economic modernization necessitated standardized languages, mass literacy, and centralized administration to facilitate efficient communication and labor mobility. Unlike primordialism, which views nations as ancient, modernism treats them as functional responses to the socio-economic requirements of industrialization and state-building processes.

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6. (C) A is true but R is false.
The Peace of Westphalia upheld the principle that a ruler could determine the religion of their own territory. This concept aimed to reduce conflict by accepting religious diversity across different states rather than enforcing a single universal faith. Consequently, while the assertion regarding the principle is accurate, the claim that the treaty sought to mandate religious uniformity is historically incorrect.

7. (D) Supranational governance
The classical nation-state model is built upon three essential pillars: a clearly defined territory, a stable population with a shared national identity, and internal sovereignty. This system prioritizes the independence and supreme authority of the state within its borders. Supranational governance, which involves delegating power to international organizations above the state level, contradicts these foundational principles of absolute state autonomy.

8. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The French Revolution transformed warfare by introducing mass conscription, effectively linking citizenship to military service. This concept of the nation in arms increased the scale of military mobilization. However, the rise

of nationalism did not reduce conflict; instead, it often intensified 19th-century inter-state competition and territorial disputes, eventually contributing to the structural causes of the First World War.

9. (C) States are seen as solid, unitary actors interacting purely through external collisions.
The Billiard Ball Model characterizes states as opaque, unitary, and autonomous actors in the international system. It suggests that internal domestic politics are irrelevant to a state's external behavior, much like the internal composition of a billiard ball does not affect its motion. Cooperation and conflict are viewed as the result of external pressures and collisions between these solid entities.

10. (A) The alignment of political legitimacy with popular national identity.
Moving from dynastic empires to nation-states fundamentally altered the basis of political legitimacy. In the imperial era, authority was often derived from divine right or hereditary succession. The nation-state model shifted this foundation toward the people, requiring the state to represent a specific national identity. This alignment became the primary justification for sovereignty and the exercise of political power.

11. (D) The Concert of Europe establishing a balance of power.
The Congress of Vienna established a framework known as the Concert of Europe to maintain continental stability. This system relied on informal cooperation among great powers to manage disputes and prevent any single nation from achieving hegemony. By focusing on a balance of power, the major European states successfully avoided a large-scale, general war for several decades.

12. (B) I, II, and IV
The pre-World War I international system was defined by a multipolar distribution of power among major European states. This era was characterized by secret diplomatic agreements, rigid defensive alliances, and intense imperial competition for colonies in Africa and Asia. The League of Nations, however, was not part of this period; it was created only after the war concluded.

13. (C) It was designed to promote liberal democratic revolutions across Europe.
The Concert of Europe was a conservative arrangement established by major powers to preserve the monarchical status quo and territorial boundaries after the Napoleonic Wars. It prioritized stability and the prevention of major conflict through regular diplomatic conferences. Far from promoting liberal democracy, the system often sought to suppress revolutionary movements that threatened the established social order.

14. (D) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
European security before 1914 was shaped by several critical alliances. The Triple Alliance brought together Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy, while the Triple Entente consisted of France, Britain, and Russia. Earlier, the Dual Alliance linked Germany and Austria-Hungary. These formal agreements, alongside the 1815 Holy Alliance of Russia, Prussia, and Austria, created a complex web of diplomatic obligations.

15. (A) Imperial expansion as a safety valve for European rivalries
During the late 19th century, European powers engaged in rapid imperial expansion across Africa. This process acted as a safety valve, allowing states to compete for prestige, resources, and territory outside of the European continent. By channeling their rivalries into colonial acquisitions, major powers sought to avoid direct military confrontation in Europe while simultaneously expanding their global economic influence.

16. (C) A is true but R is false.
Otto von Bismarck designed a complex system of alliances specifically to isolate France and prevent it from forming a coalition against Germany. His goal was to maintain German security through diplomatic maneuvers. However, the reasoning provided is inaccurate because it was France, not Germany, that sought revenge for territorial losses, particularly the annexation of Alsace-Lorraine after 1871.

17. (B) The successful mediation of the July Crisis by the League of Nations.
Several factors led to the collapse of the pre-World War I system, including aggressive Balkan

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nationalism, naval competition between Britain and Germany, and rigid military alliances. However, the League of Nations could not have mediated the July Crisis because it did not exist until 1919. The lack of an effective international organization to manage such crises was a weakness.

18. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The international system before 1914 was characterized by multipolarity, with power shared among several major European nations. While these states recognized each other's sovereignty, international law of that era did not grant equal status to non-European entities. Most of the world was subject to colonial rule or unequal treaties, reflecting a Eurocentric hierarchy rather than global equality.

19. (C) Wilhelmine Germany
Weltpolitik was the assertive foreign policy adopted by Germany under Kaiser Wilhelm II in the late 19th century. This strategy marked a shift from Bismarck's focus on European continental security toward global expansion and naval buildup. By seeking a "place in the sun," Germany challenged the existing international order, contributing significantly to rising tensions with Britain and other powers.

20. (D) The transformation of a localized crisis into a global war.
The transition from fluid, shifting alliances to rigid, opposing blocs by 1914 drastically reduced diplomatic flexibility. This structural change meant that a local dispute in the Balkans could no longer be isolated. Instead, through a chain reaction of mutual defense obligations, the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand quickly escalated into a general European conflict, drawing in all major powers.

21. (C) Self-determination
Self-determination is the principle that a group of people with a shared national identity should have the right to choose their own political status and form of government. This concept became a central theme during the Inter-War period, heavily advocated by Woodrow Wilson. It provided the ideological basis for the creation of several new states from former multi-ethnic European empires.

22. (B) I, III, and IV
The Inter-War period was characterized by the rise of totalitarian regimes in Germany, Italy, and the Soviet Union, alongside the economic devastation of the Great Depression. Western democracies often pursued a policy of appeasement to avoid further conflict. However, the League of Nations is widely considered a failure because it proved unable to prevent acts of aggression by powers.

23. (D) It renounced war as an instrument of national policy but lacked enforcement mechanisms.
The Kellogg-Briand Pact of 1928 represented an idealist attempt to outlaw war internationally. While nearly every major nation signed the agreement, renouncing military force for the settlement of disputes, the treaty provided no practical means of enforcement or punishment for violators. Consequently, it failed to deter the aggressive territorial expansions that led to the eventual outbreak of World War II.

24. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Inter-war diplomacy involved diverse attempts at stabilization and arms control. The Locarno Treaties focused on securing Western European borders, while the Washington Naval Conference successfully limited naval construction. The Treaty of Rapallo normalized relations between Germany and Soviet Russia. In contrast, the Munich Agreement represented a failure of diplomacy, resulting in the cession of the Sudetenland to Germany.

25. (C) States prioritize their own national interests and survival over abstract collective commitments.
From a realist perspective, collective security systems like the League of Nations are inherently flawed. Realism argues that in an anarchic international system, states are rational actors that prioritize their own survival and national interests. They are unlikely to sacrifice their security or resources to defend others unless it directly benefits them, making abstract commitments to collective action unreliable.

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26. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Global trade declined sharply during the Inter-War years due to the economic impact of the Great Depression. In response to the crisis, many major economies turned toward protectionism to shield their domestic industries. The United States' adoption of the Smoot-Hawley Tariff is a primary example of this trend, which triggered retaliatory measures and further stifled the international system.

27. (D) The overrepresentation of Asian and African states in its Council.
The League of Nations failed for several structural and political reasons, including the absence of the United States, the requirement for unanimous voting, and the lack of its own military. However, it did not suffer from an overrepresentation of Asian and African states. In fact, many of these regions remained under colonial rule and had limited participation in the organization.

28. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Appeasement was based on the hope that addressing the grievances of revisionist powers would prevent a general war. Proponents believed that minor territorial concessions could satisfy leaders like Hitler. However, this policy did not end with the 1936 remilitarization of the Rhineland; instead, it continued through the 1938 Munich Agreement, only being abandoned after the invasion of Poland.

29. (C) Sought to alter the territorial and systemic status quo established after WWI.
In the context of the Inter-War years, revisionist powers were states that were profoundly dissatisfied with the post-war international order. Nations like Germany, Italy, and Japan actively sought to overturn the territorial arrangements and legal restrictions imposed by the Treaty of Versailles. Their aggressive pursuit of expansion and systemic change directly challenged the status quo maintained by the League.

30. (D) The Great Depression caused a resurgence of economic nationalism and aggressive expansionism by states like Japan and Germany.
The global economic collapse of the 1930s had profound political consequences. As international trade withered and unemployment soared, democratic governments weakened. This instability facilitated the rise of militaristic and fascist regimes that pursued aggressive expansionism as a solution to domestic economic woes. Consequently, the Great Depression acted as a critical catalyst for the breakdown of peace and eventual conflict.

31. (A) It involved intense geopolitical rivalry without direct, large-scale military confrontation between the superpowers.
The term "Cold War" describes the period of extreme tension between the United States and the Soviet Union following World War II. While the two superpowers engaged in a global ideological and strategic competition, they avoided direct, full-scale military conflict with one another. Instead, the rivalry was characterized by proxy wars, espionage, an arms race, and psychological warfare globally.

32. (B) I and II only
Cold War foreign policy was shaped by several key doctrines and strategies. The Truman Doctrine established the framework for containing communism, while the Marshall Plan provided the economic support necessary to stabilize Western Europe. Later, the Brezhnev Doctrine asserted the Soviet right to intervene in other socialist states. Periods of reduced tension between these superpowers were collectively known as détente.

33. (B) The bipolar structure allowed minor powers to act with absolute autonomy in foreign affairs.
Bipolarity during the Cold War involved a system dominated by two superpowers with immense military and economic strength. While this structure provided some stability through nuclear deterrence and rigid alliances like NATO and the Warsaw Pact, it significantly limited the autonomy of minor powers. Most smaller states were pressured to align with one of the two blocs.

34. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
The Cold War was marked by several intense crises that tested the stability of the bipolar system. The Korean War began in 1950, representing the first major proxy conflict. In 1961, the construction of the Berlin Wall symbolized the division of Europe. This was followed by the 1962 Cuban

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Missile Crisis and the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

35. (C) The Vietnam War, where local forces were heavily backed by the rival superpowers.
A proxy war occurs when major powers support opposing sides in a third-party conflict to advance their own strategic interests without engaging in direct combat. The Vietnam War is a quintessential example, as the United States and the Soviet Union provided extensive military and financial aid to rival local forces. This allowed the superpowers to compete globally while avoiding escalation.

36. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Neorealist scholars like Kenneth Waltz argued that the bipolar structure of the Cold War was remarkably stable. In this system, the two superpowers could easily monitor each other's actions, reducing the risk of miscalculation. Furthermore, the reality of nuclear deterrence ensured that any direct conflict would result in mutual destruction, thereby discouraging large-scale war between the US and USSR.

37. (C) Joseph Stalin - Peaceful Coexistence
During the Cold War, various leaders were defined by specific strategic policies. Harry Truman initiated containment, while Richard Nixon pursued détente. Mikhail Gorbachev is known for his domestic reforms of glasnost and perestroika. However, the policy of "Peaceful Coexistence" is associated with Nikita Khrushchev, not Joseph Stalin, who maintained a far more confrontational stance toward Western powers.

38. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The Non-Aligned Movement was created by developing nations to maintain their autonomy and avoid becoming entangled in the Cold War's bipolar rivalry. Contrary to being an obstacle to change, the movement was a fervent supporter of the decolonization process. Its members actively advocated for the independence of all colonies and sought to end imperial rule throughout Africa and Asia.

39. (B) Internal economic stagnation, political reform failures, and the cost of the arms race.
The end of the Cold War and the subsequent dissolution of the Soviet Union were primarily driven by internal factors. Years of economic stagnation, the immense financial burden of the nuclear arms race, and the failure of Mikhail Gorbachev's reform efforts created insurmountable domestic pressure. These systemic weaknesses led to the peaceful collapse of the communist bloc rather than military defeat.

40. (A) An increased reliance on conventional military forces and specialized counterinsurgency units.
The transition to a "flexible response" strategy allowed the United States to address a wider range of security threats without immediately resorting to nuclear weapons. This policy emphasized the need for diverse military capabilities, including enhanced conventional forces and specialized units for counterinsurgency. By moving away from massive retaliation, the US aimed to provide more options for managing global conflicts.

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41. (C) Developing and less developed countries, predominantly located in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.
In contemporary discourse and area studies, the "Global South" is used to describe nations that generally face challenges related to economic development and industrialization. While many of these countries are located in the southern hemisphere, the term is primarily a socio-economic and political classification. It encompasses diverse regions across Africa, Asia, and Latin America with shared colonial histories.

42. (A) I, II, and IV
Decolonisation was significantly accelerated by the economic and military exhaustion of European powers following the Second World War. This process was driven by the principle of national self-determination and led to a dramatic increase in the number of sovereign states within the United Nations. However, while political independence was achieved, many former colonies continued to face deep economic dependencies.

43. (D) The global economic system structurally exploits peripheral nations to enrich the core industrialized nations.
Dependency theory offers a critical perspective on global development, arguing that underdevelopment is not a natural state but a result of historical exploitation. It suggests that the international economic system is structured to benefit wealthy, industrialized "core" nations at the expense of "peripheral" developing countries. This structure forces peripheral nations to provide raw materials while remaining dependent on others.

44. (B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
The struggle for development and independence in the Global South involved various initiatives. The 1955 Bandung Conference promoted Afro-Asian solidarity, while the "Third World" became a label for non-aligned nations. Economically, the New International Economic Order sought to restructure global trade. Meanwhile, the concept of neo-colonialism highlighted how indirect exploitation continued through economic and cultural channels after independence.

45. (C) Permanent sovereignty over natural resources.
Following decolonisation, newly independent states sought to assert control over their economic destinies by promoting the doctrine of permanent sovereignty over natural resources. This principle in international law established that states have the inherent right to manage and exploit their own wealth and resources. It was a critical step for Global South nations seeking to move beyond colonial-era exploitation.

46. (D) A is false but R is true.
Structural adjustment programs implemented during the 1980s were often criticized rather than praised, as they frequently led to increased social hardship in the Global South. While the reason correctly identifies the core requirements of these programs—such as privatization and deregulation—the assertion is false. Many scholars argue that these mandates hindered development and exacerbated poverty instead of successfully ending.

47. (A) Formation of a joint military command for the Global South.
During the Cold War, the Non-Aligned Movement focused on political and diplomatic agendas, such as opposing apartheid, struggling against imperialism, and advocating for global nuclear disarmament. The movement sought to maintain its members' autonomy by avoiding military entanglement with superpowers. Consequently, the creation of a joint military command was never a goal, as it would have contradicted principles.

48. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The term "Global South" has largely replaced "Third World" as a more appropriate descriptor in the post-Cold War era. It reflects a shared political and economic experience rather than just a Cold War alignment. However, the term is not strictly limited to low-income nations; many states that have achieved upper-middle-income status are still considered part of the Global South.

49. (B) Rectify unequal terms of trade and increase the Global South's control over global economic institutions.
The demand for a New International Economic Order in the 1970s was driven by the desire of developing nations to address systemic global inequalities. These countries sought to reform the international economic system to achieve fairer terms of trade and gain a greater voice in decision-making processes within institutions like the World Bank. The goal was more equitable development.

50. (A) A shift in voting power in the General Assembly favoring developing nations.
The success of national liberation movements across Africa and Asia dramatically increased the number of sovereign states in the international system. Since each member state possesses one vote in the United Nations General Assembly, this influx fundamentally shifted the voting power toward developing nations. This new majority allowed the Global South to place issues like decolonisation on the agenda.

51. (C) The triumph of Western liberal democracy.
Francis Fukuyama's "End of History" thesis argued that the conclusion of the Cold War

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represented more than just the end of a specific conflict. He suggested it marked the endpoint of humanity's ideological evolution and the universalization of Western liberal democracy as the final form of human government. According to this view, no other ideological system could successfully challenge this.

52. (A) II, IV, I, III
The transition to the contemporary era followed a specific sequence of major events. The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 signaled the beginning of the end for the communist bloc, followed by the formal dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991. Later, the 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States fundamentally reshaped global security, eventually leading to the invasion.

53. (C) It marked the permanent cessation of all major power geopolitical rivalries.
The 1990s was a complex period often described as a unipolar moment where the United States was the sole superpower. While NATO and the European Union expanded, the era was not one of permanent peace. It actually witnessed an increase in ethnic violence and intra-state conflicts. Geopolitical rivalries between major powers were not permanently eliminated but rather transformed.

54. (D) Unipolar Illusion - US hegemony will last permanently without any balancing efforts by other states.
Various theories explain the post-Cold War world. The "Unipolar Illusion" argument, notably associated with scholars like Christopher Layne, actually suggests that US hegemony is temporary and will inevitably face balancing from other states. This stands in contrast to the other pairs, which correctly summarize the Clash of Civilizations, Democratic Peace Theory, and the concept of Complex Interdependence.

55. (C) Humanitarian Intervention and the emerging R2P (Responsibility to Protect) norm.
The 1999 NATO intervention in Kosovo was a significant event that bypassed traditional UN Security Council authorization. It is frequently cited as a primary example of humanitarian intervention, where external forces act to prevent mass atrocities within a state. This action contributed to the development of the "Responsibility to Protect" norm, which suggests that sovereignty is not absolute.

56. (B) A diffusion of power where states must contend with multinational corporations, NGOs, and transnational terrorist networks.
In the post-Cold War era, the traditional dominance of the nation-state has been challenged by a diffusion of power. While states remain the primary actors, they must now navigate a complex landscape featuring influential non-state actors such as powerful multinational corporations and international NGOs. Additionally, the rise of transnational terrorist networks has forced states to adapt their global security strategies.

57. (D) South Asia (SAARC)
While regional integration has been a successful global trend in many areas, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation has faced significant challenges. Persistent geopolitical tensions, particularly between India and Pakistan, have hindered the organization's effectiveness. Unlike the European Union or ASEAN, SAARC has struggled to achieve deep economic integration or resolve regional security disputes, making it an exception.

58. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Following the Cold War, the United Nations significantly increased its involvement in peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations to address localized conflicts. However, these missions were not always successful. Tragic failures in regions like Rwanda and Srebrenica demonstrated the limitations of international interventions in preventing genocide. Thus, while the frequency of missions increased, they did not universally achieve their most critical objectives.

59. (C) Several major powers, including emerging economies like China and India, sharing global influence and capabilities.
The contemporary international system is increasingly described as multipolar, characterized by the presence of several influential states. In this structure, global power is shared among established powers and rapidly emerging economies like China and India. This

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shift away from unipolarity means that no single state can dictate the rules of global governance, requiring more complex diplomacy and coalition-building.

60. (A) Utilizing cultural appeal, political values, and foreign policies to persuade others.
Soft power is the ability of a state to influence others and achieve desired outcomes through attraction rather than coercion. To evaluate this competency, one looks at how a nation uses its cultural appeal, political values, and diplomatic policies to build positive perceptions. Unlike hard power, which relies on military force or economic sanctions, soft power focuses on persuasion and legitimacy.

61. (B) The increasing interconnectedness and interdependence of global economies, cultures, and populations.
Globalization is a multifaceted process that involves the rapid expansion of cross-border interactions. It is primarily defined by the growing interconnectedness and interdependence of national economies, diverse cultures, and global populations. This phenomenon is driven by advancements in technology, trade liberalization, and communication, resulting in a world where events in one region can have immediate and significant impacts worldwide.

62. (A) I, III, and IV
Globalization has significantly impacted state sovereignty in several ways. Global financial markets have eroded economic autonomy, and the rise of transnational corporations has often outpaced state-level regulations. Furthermore, states must now operate within complex international governance regimes. However, the legal concept of territorial sovereignty has not become irrelevant; states still maintain their fundamental right to govern within their own borders.

63. (B) It facilitates the rapid transnational spread of political ideas and social movements.
One major political impact of globalization is the increased speed at which ideas and movements spread across national borders. Information technology and global networks allow activists and political groups to share strategies and mobilize support internationally. This interconnectedness subjects domestic political systems to greater international scrutiny and facilitates the diffusion of norms related to human rights and global democracy.

64. (A) Hyperglobalizers - Believe the nation-state is becoming obsolete.
Different theoretical perspectives offer varied views on globalization. Hyperglobalizers argue that the traditional nation-state is becoming obsolete as global markets and institutions take precedence. In contrast, skeptics view globalization as a continuation of historical trends rather than something entirely new. Transformationalists believe globalization is significantly reshaping the world, while realists maintain that states remain the primary and most powerful actors.

65. (B) Systemic contagion and financial interdependence.
The 2008 global financial crisis serves as a powerful illustration of the deep interconnectedness of the modern world. It demonstrated how a localized failure in one nation's housing market could rapidly spread through global financial networks, causing systemic contagion. This event highlighted the vulnerabilities inherent in financial interdependence, where economic instability in one major economy can trigger a worldwide recession.

66. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Recent years have seen a significant backlash against globalization, manifested in the rise of populist movements and economic nationalism. This reaction is largely driven by the uneven distribution of globalization's benefits, which has led to job losses in domestic manufacturing sectors in many developed nations. Consequently, political leaders in these regions have increasingly advocated for protectionist policies.

67. (D) The global resurgence of autarkic economic models.
Contemporary globalization is driven by several key factors, including rapid advancements in information technology, the reduction of trade barriers through the WTO, and improvements in global logistics. These elements facilitate the movement of goods and ideas. Conversely, the

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resurgence of autarkic economic models, which emphasize self-sufficiency and closed borders, would act as a barrier to globalization rather than a driver.

68. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
While globalization facilitates the spread of global brands, it does not necessarily result in a single, uniform culture. Local traditions often persist or adapt. The concept of "glocalization" describes this phenomenon, where global products and ideas are modified to better fit specific local cultural contexts. This process allows for the integration of global influences without the total erasure of identity.

69. (B) The ratio of international trade and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
To quantify the level of economic globalization, scholars use specific metrics that reflect integration into global markets. The ratio of a country's international trade and foreign direct investment to its total Gross Domestic Product is a primary indicator. This measurement shows how dependent a domestic economy is to global flows of capital, goods, and services compared to internal production.

70. (D) It has made it easier for transnational criminal networks and terrorists to operate across borders.
Globalization has introduced new challenges to international security. The same networks that facilitate global trade and communication are also utilized by transnational criminal organizations and terrorist groups to operate more effectively across national borders. These non-state actors can easily move funds, recruit members, and coordinate activities globally, complicating the security efforts of sovereign states and international organizations.

71. (B) The absolute and perpetual power of a republic within its borders.
In classical international relations theory, sovereignty is the defining characteristic of the state. It implies that a political entity possesses absolute and perpetual authority over its own territory and population. This internal supremacy means that no higher power exists within the state's borders, and external actors have no legal right to interfere in its domestic affairs or decision-making.

72. (A) I, II, and IV
The Peace of Westphalia in 1648 was a landmark event that ended the Thirty Years' War and established the foundational principles of the modern state system. It codified state sovereignty and the principle of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other states. While significant, the treaty did not create a supranational authority or mandate the adoption of democratic governance.

73. (C) Nationalism was entirely a non-violent, intellectual movement in 19th-century Europe.
Nationalism was a powerful ideological force that sought to align cultural and ethnic identities with political units. While it involved intellectual developments like "imagined communities" and print capitalism, it was certainly not an entirely peaceful movement. The rise of nationalist sentiments frequently led to violent revolutions, wars of unification, and the disintegration of multi-ethnic empires throughout the nineteenth century.

74. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Scholarship on nationalism features several influential perspectives. Benedict Anderson famously described nations as "imagined communities," while Ernest Gellner viewed nationalism as a functional requirement for industrial society. Eric Hobsbawm focused on the "invention of traditions" to foster national identity. Anthony D. Smith, meanwhile, emphasized "ethno-symbolism," arguing that modern nations have deep roots in pre-modern ethnic groups and symbols.

75. (C) Nationalism acted as a centrifugal force, fracturing the empire along ethnic lines.
The rise of nationalism presented a fundamental threat to the stability of multi-ethnic empires. In the case of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, nationalist sentiments among its diverse populations acted as a powerful centrifugal force. Different ethnic groups demanded self-determination and the creation of their own sovereign states, eventually leading to the internal fracturing and ultimate collapse of the imperial structure.

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76. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The French Revolution is widely regarded as a critical catalyst for the emergence of modern mass nationalism. This is because it fundamentally redefined the concept of sovereignty, shifting it from the person of the monarch to the "nation" or the people. This change fostered a powerful sense of collective identity and shared loyalty among citizens, laying the foundations for nationalism.

77. (D) Existence of a central global governing body to enforce peace.
The pre-World War I balance of power system was characterized by multipolarity, flexible alliances in its early stages, and the acceptance of war as a tool of statecraft. However, the system lacked any central global governing body with the authority to enforce peace or settle disputes between sovereign states. Security depended entirely on the strategic maneuvers and informal cooperation of powers.

78. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
The Concert of Europe was an informal diplomatic arrangement rather than a rigid system of international law. It did not permanently ban all territorial annexations. Instead, the system functioned through regular, informal consultations among the great powers who shared a common interest in maintaining the status quo. This flexible approach helped prevent major conflicts for several decades after the year 1815.

79. (C) The rigid bipolarization of alliances under anarchic conditions creating a severe security dilemma.
From a structural realist perspective, the outbreak of World War I is explained by the anarchic nature of the international system. The creation of rigid, opposing alliance systems forced major powers into a severe security dilemma. As states increased their military capabilities for defense, they inadvertently threatened others, leading to an escalatory spiral that made a general European conflict inevitable.

80. (D) The collapse of collective security and a return to aggressive state self-help mechanisms.
The Inter-War period saw a dramatic shift from the optimistic diplomacy of the 1920s to the crises of the 1930s. This transition was marked by the failure of the League of Nations and the breakdown of collective security agreements. As global economic and political stability vanished, states abandoned international cooperation, returning to aggressive self-help mechanisms and territorial expansion.

81. (D) An attack on one state is considered an attack on all, prompting a united response.
Collective security is a system designed to prevent aggression through the promise of a unified international response. Unlike bilateral alliances aimed at a specific enemy, this arrangement operates on the principle that a threat to any member is a threat to the entire community. All participating states agree to act together to deter or punish any state that commits aggression.

82. (A) II, I, IV, III
The Inter-War years were defined by a series of diplomatic and military milestones. The Kellogg-Briand Pact of 1928 initially sought to outlaw war. However, stability eroded with the 1931 Japanese invasion of Manchuria and the 1935 Italian invasion of Ethiopia. These events culminated in the 1938 Munich Crisis, which highlighted the failure of collective security and the rise of aggression.

83. (D) It weakened democratic governments and facilitated the rise of fascist and militarist regimes.
The Great Depression had catastrophic political effects on the international system. The global economic collapse caused widespread unemployment and social unrest, which undermined the legitimacy of democratic institutions. This instability provided an opening for fascist and militarist regimes to seize power in several nations. These aggressive governments subsequently pursued expansionist foreign policies, directly challenging the existing international order.

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84. (C) Treaty of Versailles - Established the borders of post-WWII Europe
Several treaties shaped the Inter-War era, including the Washington Naval Treaty and the Locarno Pact. However, the Treaty of Versailles is incorrectly paired here because it established the territorial and political settlement following the First World War, not the Second. The borders of post-World War II Europe were largely determined by later conferences and the realities of the Cold War.

85. (C) Utopianism/Idealism that ignored the realities of power politics.
In his influential work "The Twenty Years' Crisis," E.H. Carr critiqued the intellectual foundations of the League of Nations. He argued that the organization's failure stemmed from a naive reliance on utopianism or idealism. According to Carr, these thinkers ignored the fundamental role of power and national interest in international relations, leading to an unworkable system that could not manage conflict.

86. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Despite President Woodrow Wilson's central role in designing the League of Nations, the United States never joined the organization. This was primarily due to intense opposition within the US Senate, which refused to ratify the Treaty of Versailles. Senators were concerned that membership would compromise national sovereignty and force the nation into foreign conflicts without clear consent.

87. (D) The division of Germany into four occupation zones.
The Treaty of Versailles imposed several significant territorial changes on Germany, including the return of Alsace-Lorraine to France and the creation of an independent Poland with a sea corridor. It also stripped Germany of its overseas colonies. However, the division of Germany into four occupation zones was a consequence of the Second World War, established at the Yalta and Potsdam conferences.

88. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
The policy of appeasement failed to prevent major power conflict, as it did not satisfy the expansionist ambitions of Nazi Germany. Instead, it allowed revisionist powers to systematically dismantle the Versailles settlement without facing immediate military opposition. By the time the policy was abandoned after the invasion of Poland, Germany had significantly strengthened its strategic position, making war unavoidable.

89. (B) To administer former enemy territories under the auspices of the League of Nations, theoretically preparing them for self-rule.
The Mandate System was established after the First World War to manage territories formerly controlled by the German and Ottoman empires. Rather than granting immediate independence, these regions were placed under the administration of various Allied powers. The League of Nations oversaw this process, with the theoretical goal of preparing the inhabitants for future self-governance and eventual political sovereignty.

90. (D) The outbreak of World War II.
The collapse of the Inter-War international system was the direct result of several intersecting factors, including the failure of collective security and the rise of aggressive revisionist powers. As the League of Nations proved unable to maintain order and economic nationalism surged, the world transitioned into total instability. This breakdown culminated in the catastrophic outbreak of the Second World War.

91. (A) The US policy to prevent the spread of communism beyond its existing boundaries.
Containment was the central foreign policy strategy of the United States during the Cold War. Formulated by George Kennan, it aimed to prevent the geopolitical expansion of the Soviet Union and the spread of communist ideology into new territories. Through economic aid and military alliances, the US sought to keep communism restricted within its existing borders until the system eventually collapsed.

92. (A) I, II, and IV
The Cold War arms race was a period of intense military competition between superpowers. It relied on the doctrine of Mutually Assured Destruction to prevent direct conflict while simultaneously driving technological breakthroughs, including the Space Race. Over

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time, both sides recognized the dangers of unlimited proliferation, leading to the signing of critical arms control agreements such as the SALT treaties.

93. (A) It represented a permanent end to the ideological conflict between the US and USSR.
Détente refers to a specific phase of the Cold War during the 1970s characterized by a significant reduction in tensions. It facilitated important diplomatic breakthroughs, such as the Helsinki Accords and arms limitation treaties. However, it did not represent a permanent end to the ideological struggle. The period of cooperation eventually collapsed following the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan in 1979.

94. (D) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
The Cold War featured several competing military and security alliances. NATO was established in 1949 to protect Western Europe, followed by the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact in 1955. In other regions, the United States formed SEATO in 1954 to contain communism in Southeast Asia. Additionally, the Baghdad Pact, which later became CENTO, was created in 1955 to secure the Middle East.

95. (A) Graham Allison
Graham Allison's work on the Cuban Missile Crisis is a seminal contribution to the study of foreign policy decision-making. He moved beyond the rational actor model to analyze how bureaucratic politics and standard operating procedures within government agencies shape outcomes. His research demonstrates that state actions are often the result of complex internal negotiations and institutional habits rather than unified choice.

96. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The division of Germany was a defining feature of the Cold War in Europe. This geopolitical situation emerged because both the United States and the Soviet Union recognized that control over a unified Germany would decisively shift the continental balance of power. Consequently, the establishment of East and West Germany served as a buffer and a focal point for competition.

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97. (D) Extensive economic integration between the US and Soviet blocs.
The Cold War was characterized by intense ideological competition, a massive arms race, and the formation of rival military alliances. However, it was not a period of economic integration between the opposing blocs. Instead, the United States and the Soviet Union maintained largely separate economic systems, with minimal trade and financial interaction between the capitalist West and the communist East.

98. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
The Sino-Soviet split in the 1960s shattered the idea of a monolithic communist bloc, introducing a new multipolar dynamic within international socialism. This fragmentation had significant geopolitical consequences, as it eventually allowed the United States to pursue a rapprochement with China in the 1970s. This strategic shift fundamentally altered the Cold War balance, further isolating the Soviet Union from its neighbor.

99. (C) Heightened military spending and the deployment of intermediate-range missiles in Europe.
The "Second Cold War" in the early 1980s was a period of renewed hostility after the collapse of détente. It was marked by a sharp increase in military expenditures by both superpowers and a more confrontational diplomatic tone. A key feature of this era was the deployment of intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe, which significantly increased the perceived threat.

100. (A) How superpowers seek to project power and drain rivals without risking direct, escalatory conflict.
Analyzing the strategic use of proxy wars is essential for understanding superpower behavior during the Cold War. These conflicts allowed the United States and Soviet Union to advance their interests and exhaust their rivals by supporting local actors in various regions. This approach enabled the super-states to compete globally while avoiding the existential risks of a direct and potentially nuclear escalation.

101. (D) The dismantling of colonial empires and the emergence of politically independent states.
Decolonisation is the historical process that involves the withdrawal of colonial powers from their overseas territories. This movement led to the formal dismantling of European empires and the emergence of numerous new, politically independent states across Africa, Asia, and other regions. It fundamentally reshaped the global political map and expanded the membership of the international community throughout the twentieth century.

102. (A) I, II, III, and V
The Global South is a term describing a diverse group of states, most of which share a history of colonial rule. These nations are generally characterized by lower industrial development and have historically advocated for a New International Economic Order. To address shared challenges, they have increasingly utilized South-South cooperation. However, these states do not uniformly adopt liberal democratic governance.

103. (D) It formed a heavily armed military alliance against the Soviet Union.
The Non-Aligned Movement formally originated from the 1955 Bandung Conference, led by figures such as Nehru and Tito. Its primary goal was to oppose colonialism and avoid entanglement in Cold War rivalries. Contrary to becoming a military alliance, the movement's defining characteristic was its refusal to join either the US-led or Soviet-led blocs, prioritizing diplomatic independence.

104. (A) Frantz Fanon - The Wretched of the Earth
Scholarship on decolonization includes several pivotal works and authors. Frantz Fanon's "The Wretched of the Earth" is a foundational text that examines the psychological and physical impacts of colonial rule and the necessity of liberation. This stands in contrast to the other pairs, which misattribute influential works such as Orientalism and The Clash of Civilizations to different thinkers.

105. (A) How historical colonial hierarchies continue to shape modern global power dynamics and cultural perceptions.
Post-colonial theory focuses on the enduring impact of European imperialism on the contemporary world. It examines how historical colonial hierarchies and ideologies continue to influence current international power structures, economic relations, and cultural identities. By analyzing these legacies, scholars seek to understand why certain global inequalities persist and how traditional Western-centric perspectives still dominate international relations and various area studies.

106. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Decolonisation profoundly transformed the United Nations General Assembly by bringing in many new sovereign states from the Global South. This influx created a new voting majority that shifted the organization's focus. Instead of solely addressing Cold War security concerns, the Assembly began to prioritize issues such as economic development, the end of apartheid, and the promotion of equity.

107. (B) Complete dominance over global financial institutions like the IMF.
Developing nations in the Global South face several significant challenges, including recurring sovereign debt crises, vulnerability to climate change, and unequal terms in international trade. However, they do not possess dominance over major global financial institutions. In reality, organizations like the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank remain largely controlled by wealthier, industrialized nations of the Global North.

108. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Neo-colonialism is a concept suggesting that former colonies remain structurally and economically dependent on powerful nations despite having achieved formal political independence. This ongoing relationship is maintained through economic mechanisms, such as debt and corporate influence, rather than direct military occupation. Thus, while sovereignty exists on paper, the practical ability of these states to determine policies remains significantly constrained.

109. (B) South-South Cooperation
South-South Cooperation refers to the process where developing nations collaborate to share

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knowledge, technology, and resources. This increasing economic and political partnership aims to reduce dependence on the Global North and promote collective self-reliance among countries of the Global South. By working together, these states seek to enhance their collective bargaining power in international forums and address development challenges.

110. (A) Promote a multipolar world order and reform global financial governance.
The BRICS group, comprising major emerging economies, seeks to challenge the existing global order and promote multipolarity. A primary objective is to reform international financial governance, including institutions like the IMF and World Bank, to better reflect the changing distribution of economic power. By advocating for a more inclusive system, BRICS aims to increase the influence of the South.

111. (D) A single state possesses overwhelmingly predominant material capabilities compared to all others.
Unipolarity describes an international system where power is concentrated in a single dominant state. In this structure, one nation possesses overwhelmingly superior military, economic, and technological capabilities compared to any other actor in the system. This predominant position allows the unipolar hegemon to exert significant influence over global norms and security, a condition observed in the post-Cold War era.

112. (A) II, I, III, IV
The post-Cold War era has been shaped by several key international agreements. The Maastricht Treaty of 1992 formally established the European Union. This was followed by the 1997 Kyoto Protocol on climate change and the 1998 Rome Statute creating the International Criminal Court. Most recently, the 2015 Paris Agreement represented a major global effort to address the environmental crisis.

113. (B) Unipolarity is inherently unstable because other states will inevitably balance against the hegemon.
From a neorealist perspective, unipolarity is viewed as a temporary and unstable configuration of power. Realist scholars argue that the overwhelming dominance of a single state will eventually provoke others to balance against it to ensure their own security. This balancing can take the form of military buildups or strategic alliances, leading to the eventual return of a multipolar system.

114. (D) Washington Consensus - State-led, centrally planned economic policies
The post-Cold War era introduced several important paradigms and concepts. While "R2P" and "Asymmetric Warfare" are correctly defined, the Washington Consensus is incorrectly paired. It actually refers to a set of neoliberal economic prescriptions, such as privatization and deregulation, promoted by major international financial institutions. This is the opposite of state-led, centrally planned policies typical of communist systems.

115. (A) Asymmetric threat and transnational terrorism.
The use of unconventional means, such as commercial aircraft, by a non-state actor to attack a major power is a quintessential example of an asymmetric threat. This concept highlights how smaller, less powerful actors can exploit vulnerabilities in highly advanced states. Such actions are characteristic of transnational terrorism, where networks operate across borders to achieve political goals through unconventional methods.

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116. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The proliferation of regional organizations following the Cold War was driven by the needs of a globalized world. States increasingly sought regional integration to improve their economic competitiveness and pooled resources to manage common security issues. By forming these blocs, nations aimed to enhance their leverage in the international system while simultaneously addressing challenges too large to handle individually.

117. (D) The total elimination of nuclear weapons from global arsenals.
Warfare in the post-Cold War period has evolved toward intra-state conflicts, cyber warfare, and the use of autonomous technology. The rise of privatized military companies is also a notable trend. However, the total elimination of nuclear

weapons has not occurred. Despite various disarmament efforts and treaties, major powers and several other nations continue to maintain nuclear arsenals.

118. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
The enlargement of NATO after the Cold War was a highly contentious issue rather than a universally welcomed move. While proponents argued it stabilized Eastern Europe, Russia consistently viewed the alliance's expansion toward its borders as a significant security threat. This divergence in perspective has remained a major source of tension in international relations, eventually contributing to renewed geopolitical conflict.

119. (B) Promoting the spread of democracy will expand the zone of peace, as democracies rarely fight each other.
Democratic Peace Theory posits that democratic states almost never go to war with one another. When applied to post-Cold War foreign policy, this idea suggests that promoting democracy globally will lead to a more peaceful international system by expanding the "zone of peace." This belief has influenced many Western interventions and diplomatic efforts aimed at fostering democratic transitions worldwide.

120. (D) The economic rise and military modernization of powers like China and a resurgent Russia.
The 21st century has seen a clear move away from unipolarity toward a more multipolar international system. This shift is primarily indicated by the rapid economic growth and extensive military modernization of major powers such as China, along with the renewed assertiveness of a resurgent Russia. These developments have challenged the predominant influence of the United States, creating a complex global landscape.

121. (B) The increasing integration of national economies through cross-border movement of goods, services, technology, and capital.
Economic globalisation refers to the profound integration of national markets into a single global system. It is characterized by the rapid and extensive movement of goods, services, advanced technology, and financial capital across international borders. This process is driven by the reduction of trade barriers and the expansion of global supply chains, leading to deep economic interdependence among nations.

122. (A) I, II, and IV
Cultural globalization has complex effects on societies worldwide. It can lead to homogenization, where global brands and media dominate, but it also provokes resistance and a renewed emphasis on local identities. Furthermore, it often results in hybridization, where global and local influences merge. However, the claim that it erases all local languages within a decade is an extreme and inaccurate exaggeration.

123. (B) It provides a framework for negotiating trade agreements and a dispute resolution process.
The World Trade Organization is a central institution in the global economic system. It offers a structured environment for nations to negotiate international trade agreements and lower barriers like tariffs. A critical feature of the WTO is its dispute resolution mechanism, which provides a legal process for settling trade conflicts between member states, ensuring that global commerce remains rules-based.

124. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Various actors play distinct roles in the process of globalization. Transnational corporations drive investment and create global supply chains, while the IMF provides critical short-term loans to maintain financial stability. Additionally, international NGOs advocate for global standards in human rights and the environment. These activities are all facilitated by the internet, which enables the near-instantaneous flow of information and communication.

125. (B) Complex interdependence creating systemic vulnerabilities.
The COVID-19 pandemic vividly demonstrated the risks inherent in a highly globalized world. The rapid spread of the virus and the subsequent disruption of international trade highlighted how complex interdependence can create systemic vulnerabilities. Because national economies are so deeply connected through global supply chains, a crisis in one region can trigger a cascading failure across the entire international economic system.

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126. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalization has significantly limited the ability of sovereign states to conduct independent macroeconomic policies. This constraint arises because high capital mobility allows investors to move funds rapidly across borders. Consequently, states must often pursue economic strategies that are favorable to international markets to prevent capital flight, effectively prioritizing global financial stability over certain domestic policy goals.

127. (D) The absolute reduction of income inequality within all states.
Economic globalization is often associated with increased overall wealth, the spread of technology, and the integration of emerging markets. However, it has not led to an absolute reduction in income inequality within every state. In many cases, the benefits of global trade have been distributed unevenly, with certain sectors gaining significantly more than others, often widening the domestic wealth gap.

128. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The "Race to the Bottom" hypothesis suggests that globalization pressures states to lower environmental and labor standards to attract mobile international capital. While this is a significant concern for many critics, it is not an absolute rule. Empirical evidence does not show that all globalized states possess the lowest standards; some nations use high standards to maintain competitiveness.

129. (C) Populist Nationalism
Populist nationalism has emerged as a powerful political force in response to the perceived negative impacts of globalization. These movements often advocate for closed borders, the return of traditional sovereignty, and the implementation of economic protectionism to shield domestic workers. By emphasizing a divide between "the people" and global elites, these parties challenge the liberal international order and its interconnectedness.

130. (D) Evolve into collective action problems requiring coordinated transnational governance.
Globalization has transformed many traditional domestic challenges into complex collective action problems. Issues such as climate change and global health crises cannot be solved by any single state acting alone. Instead, these threats require coordinated transnational governance and international cooperation. This evolution reflects how the deep interconnectedness of the modern world forces nations to work together to manage shared risks.

131. (A) The political, economic, or security cooperation among states in a specific geographic area.
Regionalism is a fundamental concept in international relations that involves the collaboration of neighboring states. This cooperation can focus on political alignment, economic integration, or collective security arrangements within a defined geographic region. By working together, states in a specific area aim to enhance their collective prosperity, manage regional disputes, and increase their overall influence on the global stage.

132. (A) I, II, IV, and V
The discipline of International Relations formally emerged following World War I, with the first academic chair established in 1919. Early scholarship was characterized by idealist approaches focused on preventing future conflict. This period was followed by a major theoretical debate between realists and idealists. While various theories have since developed, the discipline has never been dominated exclusively by a single Marxist perspective.

133. (C) It significantly fragmented its political authority, granting sovereignty to hundreds of principalities.
The Peace of Westphalia had a profound impact on the structure of the Holy Roman Empire. Rather than centralizing authority, the treaty effectively fragmented the empire's power by granting legal sovereignty to hundreds of individual principalities and states. This move allowed regional rulers to manage their own internal and religious affairs, significantly weakening central imperial control and fostering decentralization.

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134. (D) Post-colonialism - Power dynamics and cultural legacies of imperialism
Area studies and international relations utilize several theoretical frameworks. Post-colonialism is specifically concerned with analyzing the enduring power dynamics and cultural legacies of European imperialism. This approach seeks to understand how historical colonial relationships continue to influence contemporary politics and identities. In contrast, the other pairs misrepresent the neutral nature of Orientalism or the state-centric nature of realism.

135. (A) Flexible shifting of alliances to prevent any single power from achieving hegemony.
Within the 19th-century Concert of Europe, the balance of power functioned through a system of flexible and shifting alliances. Major states worked together to ensure that no single power could achieve continental hegemony. When one nation appeared too strong, others would align to counter it, maintaining a precarious stability. This mechanism relied on diplomatic pragmatism rather than ideological unity.

136. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The rise of nationalism was a major threat to the survival of nineteenth-century European empires. This was because nationalist movements encouraged various ethnic groups within these vast, multi-ethnic structures to demand their own independent statehood and political self-determination. These centrifugal pressures often led to internal unrest and the disintegration of imperial authority as different groups sought to create sovereign nations.

137. (D) The successful establishment of the League of Nations.
Late 19th-century imperialism was driven by the industrial need for raw materials, the desire for new markets, and strategic competition between European powers. These factors led to a global scramble for territory and prestige. However, the League of Nations was not a factor in this era, as the organization was only created in 1919 as a direct response to war.

138. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Pre-World War I secret diplomacy was widely criticized after the conflict for contributing to the war's outbreak through hidden commitments. In response, Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points advocated for "open covenants of peace, openly arrived at." He believed that transparent international agreements and public scrutiny would help prevent the kind of rigid and secret alliance systems that led to disaster.

139. (B) A precarious balance managed through rigid, opposing alliance systems and an arms race.
The geopolitical environment before the outbreak of World War I was defined by a fragile balance of power. This stability was increasingly threatened by the creation of rigid, opposing alliance systems and an escalating naval arms race between the major powers. Instead of robust global governance, security depended on a complex web of mutual defense obligations that made any conflict dangerous.

140. (A) It triggered a chain reaction of mobilizations dictated by the rigid alliance systems of the great powers.
The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand served as a catalyst for global conflict because of the existing structural arrangements of European power. The assassination triggered a chain reaction of military mobilizations governed by rigid alliance obligations. Because major powers were bound by secret and public defense treaties, a local dispute in the Balkans quickly drew in all the super-states.

141. (B) Strong advocacy for liberal democracy and individual rights.
Fascism in the Inter-War period was characterized by extreme nationalism, militarism, and authoritarian state control over society and the economy. It emphasized collective national unity and aggressive expansionism. Consequently, it was fundamentally opposed to the principles of liberal democracy and individual rights, viewing these concepts as weaknesses that undermined the strength and purpose of the unified, centralized nation-state.

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142. (A) IV, III, I, II
The diplomatic trajectory of World War II followed a sequence of high-level meetings between Allied leaders. The process began with the 1941 Atlantic Charter meeting, followed by the 1943 Tehran Conference. As the war neared its end, the Yalta Conference in early 1945 addressed the post-war order, culminating in the Potsdam Conference after the German surrender to finalize peace terms.

143. (D) It bolstered the stability of the Weimar Republic in Germany.
The Great Depression originated in the United States and caused a severe global economic contraction, leading many states to adopt self-sufficient or protectionist policies. Far from bolstering the Weimar Republic, the economic crisis was a primary cause of its collapse. The widespread unemployment during this period eroded public support for democracy in Germany, directly facilitating the rise of the Nazis.

144. (D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Key leaders during the Inter-War years were associated with specific and influential policies. Woodrow Wilson promoted his Fourteen Points, while Neville Chamberlain became the face of the appeasement strategy. Benito Mussolini pursued aggressive expansion through the invasion of Ethiopia. Meanwhile, Gustav Stresemann worked to stabilize the Weimar Republic and improve international relations through agreements like the Locarno Treaties.

145. (A) Appeasement
Appeasement is a diplomatic policy that involves making concessions to an aggressive power to avoid a potential conflict. This strategy is based on the belief that addressing a revisionist state's grievances can maintain peace and prevent a general war. Historically, this concept is most famously associated with the attempts by Britain and France to satisfy Nazi Germany's territorial demands during the 1930s.

146. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The failure of the League of Nations is often viewed as a failure of idealist institutionalism. This is because the organization lacked both the practical enforcement mechanisms and the consistent support of major powers necessary to deter or punish aggressive states like Italy and Japan. This inability to maintain order led many scholars to turn toward realism, focusing on power.

147. (D) Treaty of Rapallo
The Washington Naval Conference produced several key treaties, including the Four-Power and Five-Power agreements, which aimed to limit naval tonnage and stabilize the Pacific region. However, the Treaty of Rapallo was not part of this system. It was a separate 1922 agreement between Germany and Soviet Russia that focused on normalizing diplomatic and economic relations between the two pariah states.

148. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact was a strategic non-aggression agreement rather than an alliance based on shared ideology, as Nazism and Communism remained fundamentally opposed. However, the pact included secret protocols that outlined the division of Eastern Europe into respective spheres of influence. This arrangement specifically planned for the partition of Poland, allowing both Germany and the Soviet Union to expand.

149. (D) The failure of the Versailles settlement to establish a stable balance of power and address the grievances of revisionist states.
From a systemic perspective, the outbreak of World War II can be traced to the inherent weaknesses of the post-WWI order. The Versailles settlement failed to create a stable balance of power and left several major nations, particularly Germany and Japan, deeply dissatisfied. This grievance provided the motivation for aggressive expansionism that the existing collective security framework proved unable to contain.

150. (D) The economic and military exhaustion of traditional European powers and the emergence of the US and USSR as military super-states.
The shift toward a bipolar international system after the Second World War was driven by a fundamental redistribution of material power. The conflict left traditional European powers economically and militarily exhausted, unable to maintain global influence. This power vacuum

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was filled by the United States and the Soviet Union, the only two nations that emerged with the capacity to project global authority.

151. (A) Two distinct states or blocs possess the majority of economic, military, and cultural influence.
Bipolarity is a structure of the international system where power is primarily concentrated in two dominant actors or alliance blocs. These superpowers possess an overwhelming share of global economic, military, and ideological influence compared to all other states. This configuration was most clearly observed during the Cold War, where the United States and the Soviet Union led opposing global systems.

152. (A) I, II, and IV
The Truman Doctrine, announced in 1947, was a pivotal moment in American foreign policy. It established the principle of containing Soviet expansion by providing critical military and economic assistance to nations threatened by communism, specifically Greece and Turkey. Rather than returning to isolationism, this policy committed the United States to a proactive and leading role in global security and anti-communist efforts.

153. (C) The Soviet Union eagerly accepted Marshall Plan aid for Eastern Europe.
The Marshall Plan was a highly successful European Recovery Program designed to stabilize war-torn economies and prevent the spread of communist influence in Western Europe. However, the Soviet Union did not accept this aid. Viewing it as a tool of American imperialism, Stalin rejected the offer and pressured Eastern European states to do the same, deepening the division.

154. (D) Vietnam War - Resulted in a victory for communist forces.
Cold War proxy wars often had long-lasting and varied consequences. While the Korean War ended in a stalemate and the Soviet-Afghan war resulted in a withdrawal, the Vietnam War concluded with a decisive victory for communist forces after the United States withdrew. These conflicts demonstrated how local struggles became central battlegrounds for the larger ideological and strategic competition between the two superpowers.

155. (A) If one country fell to communism, neighboring countries would subsequently fall.
The Domino Theory was a central belief that guided US foreign policy in Southeast Asia during the Cold War. Policymakers argued that if one nation in the region succumbed to communist rule, its neighbors would inevitably fall in a similar fashion, much like a row of toppling dominoes. This perspective provided the strategic justification for extensive American military intervention in Vietnam.

156. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Cold War never escalated into a direct nuclear conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union. This was primarily due to the reality of Mutually Assured Destruction, where both sides possessed enough nuclear weapons to survive a first strike and retaliate. Because a direct war would have resulted in total annihilation for both nations, it acted as a deterrent.

157. (D) The Truman Doctrine
The Soviet Union utilized several mechanisms to maintain control over its Eastern European satellite states, including the Warsaw Pact for military alignment and COMECON for economic coordination. The Brezhnev Doctrine further asserted the right to intervene to preserve socialism. However, the Truman Doctrine was an American policy designed to contain communism, representing an obstacle to Soviet influence rather than a tool.

158. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The policy of Détente during the 1970s successfully led to the signing of major arms control agreements, such as SALT I and the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty. However, this period of relaxed tensions did not end the Cold War permanently. Hostilities resurfaced and intensified following the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, marking the beginning of what is often called the Second Cold War.

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159. (B) An attempt to politically liberalize the Soviet system to encourage transparency and reform.
Mikhail Gorbachev introduced the policy of Glasnost, or "openness," as part of his broader effort to revitalize the Soviet Union. The framework aimed to politically liberalize the system by encouraging transparency, free discussion, and criticism of government corruption. By increasing the flow of information, Gorbachev hoped to build public support for the structural reforms necessary to address economic stagnation.

160. (D) The reunification of Germany and a wave of democratization across Eastern Europe.
The collapse of the Berlin Wall in 1989 was a transformative event that signaled the end of the Cold War order. It directly led to the rapid reunification of Germany and sparked a wave of democratic revolutions across Eastern Europe. As communist regimes fell, the geopolitical landscape of the continent was fundamentally reshaped, ultimately leading to the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact.

161. (B) Advanced, industrialized, wealthy states that dominate the global economy.
In the framework of dependency theory, the "Core" refers to the group of advanced, wealthy, and industrialized nations that dominate the global economic system. These states possess superior technology and capital, allowing them to control the terms of international trade. They maintain their economic supremacy by extracting resources and labor from peripheral nations, thereby perpetuating a structural cycle of inequality.

162. (A) I, III, IV, and V
Decolonisation drastically changed the global map and led to the creation of the Third World bloc and many new UN members. It highlighted the importance of self-determination, though it often left behind arbitrary borders that caused future conflicts. While some transitions were peaceful, many were characterized by violent struggles for independence, refuting the claim that the process was entirely non-violent.

163. (B) Challenges of nation-building due to ethnically diverse populations forced into arbitrary borders.
The process of state-building in post-colonial regions faced immense difficulties. One major consequence was the challenge of nation-building within arbitrary borders established by former colonial powers. These boundaries often grouped together ethnically diverse and historically rival populations, leading to persistent internal tensions and conflict. Achieving political stability and a unified national identity proved to be a complex and often violent struggle.

164. (D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Nations in the Global South formed various groups to address their specific needs. The G-77 promoted economic interests in the UN, while the OAU focused on African solidarity and ending colonialism. OPEC coordinated petroleum policies to increase producer influence. Meanwhile, ASEAN was established to foster regional security and economic integration in Southeast Asia, reflecting a diverse range of collective goals.

165. (B) The conditionalities attached to IMF structural adjustment loans impacting domestic policies.
Scholars analyzing contemporary issues through the lens of neocolonialism often focus on economic mechanisms rather than direct military control. A primary example is the study of how conditionalities attached to international loans, such as those from the IMF, can force developing nations to adopt specific domestic policies. This influence is viewed as a modern form of indirect control by powerful actors.

166. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The 1955 Bandung Conference was a landmark event for both Area Studies and International Relations. It provided the first major platform for newly independent Asian and African states to voice their shared concerns. By establishing the principles of Afro-Asian solidarity and opposition to colonialism, the conference laid the essential ideological foundation for the subsequent formation of the Non-Aligned Movement.

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167. (B) The reinstatement of formal colonial governance in failed states.
The New International Economic Order sought to reform the global system to favor developing nations. Its objectives included regulating multinational corporations, facilitating technology transfer, and achieving fairer terms of trade. However, it did not advocate for the reinstatement of formal colonial governance. In fact, the movement was fundamentally rooted in the protection of state sovereignty and the eradication of colonialism.

168. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Contrary to the idea that post-colonial states reject all international law, these nations have been active participants in its development. While they often critique Eurocentric foundations, they have utilized international forums to reshape legal frameworks to better reflect their interests. The push for the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea is a primary example of how they influenced global norms.

169. (B) Newly Industrialized Countries (NICs)
Newly Industrialized Countries is the term applied to states that experienced rapid economic growth and industrialization during the late 20th century. These nations successfully transitioned from traditional agricultural economies to more diverse industrial systems, often by focusing on export-oriented manufacturing. This development allowed them to achieve much higher income levels and move beyond the traditional socio-economic constraints of the South.

170. (A) Heavy reliance on the export of a single primary commodity subject to global price volatility.
Economic underdevelopment in many Global South nations is often a structural issue linked to their historical role in the world economy. These states frequently rely on the export of a single primary commodity, such as oil or minerals. This makes their economies highly vulnerable to the extreme price volatility of global markets, hindering stable long-term planning and the development of industries.

171. (B) Multiple channels connect societies, and military force is not always the primary tool of statecraft.
The theory of complex interdependence argues that the post-Cold War world is defined by deep and multifaceted connections between societies. In this system, military force becomes less useful as an instrument of policy because states are intertwined through economic, social, and technological channels. Cooperation becomes essential as governments must navigate issues like trade and environmental protection that transcend traditional sovereign borders.

172. (A) II, IV, III, I
International security after the Cold War was marked by several major interventions. The 1991 Gulf War represented a collective response to aggression, followed by the 1999 NATO bombing of Yugoslavia. In the 21st century, the 2001 invasion of Afghanistan was launched in response to terrorism. Most recently, the 2011 NATO intervention in Libya reflected the evolving norms of humanitarian protection.

173. (C) It strictly adhered to the principles of traditional Westphalian sovereignty.
The "War on Terror" significantly reoriented US foreign policy, focusing on combating transnational terrorist networks and rogue states. However, it did not strictly adhere to traditional Westphalian sovereignty. Instead, the strategy frequently utilized pre-emptive strikes and interventions that challenged the absolute authority of states within their borders, particularly when those states were perceived as supporting terrorist actors.

174. (D) Alexander Wendt - Neoliberal Institutionalism
Post-Cold War international relations scholarship features several influential thinkers. While Huntington, Fukuyama, and Mearsheimer are correctly associated with their respective theories, Alexander Wendt is incorrectly paired here. He is actually the most prominent figure in social constructivism, which emphasizes how ideas and social identities shape international politics, rather than neoliberal institutionalism, which focuses on the role of global organizations.

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175. (A) Responsibility to Protect (R2P)
The "Responsibility to Protect" is the primary theoretical framework used to analyze and justify international interventions in humanitarian crises. It posits that sovereignty is not an absolute right but carries a responsibility to protect populations from mass atrocities. If a state fails to do so, the international community has a duty to intervene, shifting the focus from state-centered to individual security.

176. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The immediate post-Cold War era witnessed a significant resurgence of ethno-nationalist conflicts in various regions. This occurred because the collapse of the rigid and often authoritarian Cold War power structures allowed long-suppressed historical grievances and ethnic tensions to surface. Without the stabilizing influence of superpower control, many states in Eastern Europe and Africa experienced intense internal fracturing and violence.

177. (C) The permanent division of Europe into rival ideological spheres.
The "New World Order" envisioned by George H.W. Bush aimed for a more cooperative international system after the Cold War. It emphasized stronger international law, the promotion of democracy, and collective security through the United Nations. Contrary to this vision, the permanent division of Europe into rival ideological spheres was a characteristic of the previous Cold War era that the order sought to overcome.

178. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The enlargement of the European Union during the early 2000s was a strategic effort to integrate former communist states into the Western political and economic system. By requiring candidate nations to meet the strict "Copenhagen Criteria"—which include stability of institutions, a functioning market economy, and the rule of law—the expansion process successfully promoted and consolidated democracy across Central and Eastern Europe.

179. (B) States using international institutions, economic statecraft, and diplomatic arrangements to delay or frustrate the hegemon's policies.
In a unipolar system, where direct military competition is too costly or risky, secondary states often engage in "soft balancing." This strategy involves using international institutions, diplomatic coalitions, and economic tools to delay, frustrate, or constrain the actions of the hegemon. Rather than seeking to replace the superpower through war, states use these non-military means to protect their own influence.

180. (D) Dealing with "failed states" and complex humanitarian emergencies.
The collapse of state structures in regions like Somalia and the former Yugoslavia during the 1990s forced the international community to address a new set of challenges. These situations, often referred to as "failed states," created complex humanitarian emergencies that required extensive peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts. These events highlighted the limitations of traditional sovereignty and led to a greater focus on responsibility.

181. (B) The adaptation of global ideas into local contexts.
Glocalization is a process that occurs when global products or ideas are modified to better suit the specific cultural and social characteristics of a local market. Rather than leading to the total erasure of indigenous traditions, this phenomenon allows for the integration of global influences in a way that respects and adapts to local nuances. It reflects the complex interplay between global forces and agency.

182. (A) I, III, IV
Globalisation is a multifaceted phenomenon characterized by "time-space compression," where advancements in technology make the world feel smaller. It facilitates the growth of transnational social movements and weakens the ability of states to control information flows. However, it is not restricted to the economic realm; it profoundly impacts political, cultural, and social dimensions, reshaping how societies interact on a global scale.

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183. (B) They control a significant portion of global trade and investment.
Transnational corporations are major actors in the contemporary global system, controlling a vast majority of international trade and investment. These entities operate across multiple national borders, managing complex global supply chains and influencing economic policies. While they must comply with various laws, their immense financial power allows them to exert significant pressure on both domestic governments and international organizations in a globalized economy.

184. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Globalization involves various ideological and institutional components. The Washington Consensus promoted neoliberal economic policies, while the anti-globalization movement gained prominence during events like the 1999 "Battle of Seattle." Structurally, global supply chains rely on distributed manufacturing across borders. These activities are governed by institutions like the WTO, which provides a binding dispute settlement body to manage trade conflicts between states.

185. (D) Regulatory arbitrage or competitive deregulation.
When states lower their corporate tax rates or relax regulations to attract mobile global capital, they are engaging in regulatory arbitrage or competitive deregulation. This phenomenon, often termed the "Race to the Bottom," occurs because governments fear that high costs will drive investment to more favorable jurisdictions. This pressure highlights how economic globalization can constrain the domestic policy choices of sovereign states.

186. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalisation has directly encouraged the growth of regional trade blocs. States recognize that they can enhance their economic competitiveness and diplomatic leverage by pooling their resources with neighboring nations. By forming these integrated markets, countries aim to protect their interests while more effectively navigating the complexities and pressures of the globalized international economy and its diverse interconnected systems.

187. (D) Autarkic
Globalization is a multifaceted process with distinct economic, political, and cultural dimensions. Each involves the increasing flow of capital, ideas, and governance across borders. Conversely, an autarkic approach emphasizes total self-sufficiency and the closure of national borders to external trade and influence. Therefore, autarky is fundamentally the opposite of globalization, representing a rejection of the interconnected nature of the modern world.

188. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The internet has fundamentally democratized the flow of information, allowing for rapid and global communication. However, it is incorrect to suggest that authoritarian states ignore it. In reality, these governments have developed sophisticated tools for surveillance, censorship, and information control. They actively monitor online activity and use digital platforms as a means of maintaining political authority and suppressing domestic dissent within borders.

189. (B) The ratio of its trade to its GDP.
A state's integration into the global economy is most appropriately measured by its trade-to-GDP ratio. This metric compares the total value of a country's international trade to its overall economic output. A high ratio indicates that the nation is deeply connected to global markets and supply chains, making its domestic economic health significantly dependent on international commercial flows and global financial trends.

190. (B) Increased vulnerability to rapid transnational financial contagion.
High levels of financial globalization have created a world where capital can move almost instantaneously across national borders. While this facilitates investment, it also increases vulnerability to rapid transnational financial contagion. Because markets are so deeply interconnected, a crisis or loss of confidence in one major economy can quickly spread, triggering widespread instability and economic downturns throughout the entire financial system.

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191. (A) Adherence to a set of political values and laws.
Civic nationalism is a form of national identity that is based on shared participation in a political community. Unlike ethnic nationalism, which focuses on ancestry and bloodlines, civic nationalism defines the nation through adherence to common political values, constitutional principles, and the rule of law. This model is generally more inclusive, as it allows anyone who accepts these political ideals to become citizen.

192. (A) I, II, III, IV
The history of international relations is marked by a series of distinct systemic configurations. It moved from the 19th-century multipolar Concert of Europe into the crisis-ridden Inter-War period. Following World War II, the system became defined by Cold War bipolarity. Finally, the collapse of the Soviet Union ushered in the current post-Cold War era, initially characterized by the unipolar superpower.

193. (D) It successfully ended all religious conflicts permanently.
The Treaty of Westphalia was critical in establishing state sovereignty and the principle of non-intervention. It also successfully weakened the centralized power of the Holy Roman Empire. However, it did not permanently end all religious conflicts. While it helped settle the Thirty Years' War and reduced religion as a primary cause of interstate conflict, religious tensions continued to influence European politics.

194. (D) Ethno-symbolism - Nations are purely modern inventions with no roots in the past
Various theoretical perspectives offer different views on the origins of nations. While primordialists see nations as ancient and modernists see them as recent industrial products, ethno-symbolism takes a middle path. It argues that while modern nations are distinct, they have deep roots in pre-modern ethnic identities and symbols. Thus, the claim that ethno-symbolism views nations as purely modern inventions is incorrect.

195. (A) Ernest Gellner
Ernest Gellner's theory of nationalism focuses on the functional requirements of industrial society. He argued that the move from agrarian to industrial life necessitated a standardized language and a centralized education system to facilitate effective communication and social mobility. In this view, the state promotes a unified national identity through education to create the cohesive workforce and citizenry needed for a modern economy.

196. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Congress of Vienna in 1815 was successful in establishing a stable multipolar order in Europe. A key reason for this success was its diplomatic pragmatism. Instead of severely punishing the defeated nation, the great powers reintegrated France back into the system of major states. This inclusive approach helped prevent future French revisionism and ensured that all major powers had a stake in peace.

197. (C) United States
The Concert of Europe was a diplomatic arrangement among the great powers of Europe to maintain stability after the Napoleonic Wars. Its primary members included Great Britain, Russia, Austria, Prussia, and eventually France. The United States was not a member of this system, as its foreign policy during the 19th century was generally focused on continental expansion and avoiding complex alliances.

198. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
A balance of power system often relies on a "balancer," a state that shifts its support to ensure that no single power achieves hegemony. Historically, Great Britain frequently played this crucial role in 19th-century Europe. By remaining diplomatically flexible and intervening on behalf of the weaker side, Britain helped maintain the continental equilibrium and prevented any other power from dominating.

199. (D) New Imperialism
The term "New Imperialism" refers to the period of rapid colonial expansion by European powers, along with the United States and Japan, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This era was characterized by an unprecedented scramble for territory and influence in Africa and Asia. Driven by industrial competition and nationalist prestige, it fundamentally reshaped global power dynamics before 1914.

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200. (D) A chain reaction dragging all major powers into war.
The shift toward rigid and opposing alliance systems in the early 20th century significantly reduced the flexibility of international diplomacy. This structural change meant that a localized conflict in the Balkans could no longer be contained. Instead, the mutual defense obligations among the major powers triggered a sudden and irreversible chain reaction of military mobilizations, ultimately dragging every power into global war.

201. (A) A state attempting total control over public and private life.
Totalitarianism is a political system in which the state exercises absolute authority over nearly every aspect of its citizens' public and private lives. Emerging in the Inter-War period, these regimes utilized propaganda, surveillance, and state-sanctioned violence to enforce total ideological conformity. Unlike traditional authoritarian systems, totalitarian governments seek to eliminate all independent organizations and completely reshape society.

202. (A) I, III, IV, V
The League of Nations, headquartered in Geneva, was the historical precursor to the United Nations. It relied primarily on economic sanctions and moral suasion to manage disputes, as it lacked its own independent military force. Its ultimate failure was highlighted by its inability to stop aggressive actions, such as the Italian invasion of Ethiopia. These weaknesses demonstrated challenges of collective security.

203. (D) Protectionism and hyperinflation severely destabilized democracies.
The Inter-War economy was characterized by extreme volatility and instability. Following the collapse of the global financial system in 1929, many nations abandoned free trade in favor of aggressive protectionism. Additionally, several countries experienced catastrophic hyperinflation. These economic hardships severely undermined the legitimacy of democratic governments, creating the social and political conditions that allowed extremist movements to seize power.

204. (A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
The road to the Second World War was marked by several critical international crises. The 1931 Manchurian Crisis was followed by the 1935 Abyssinian Crisis, both of which exposed the League of Nations' weakness. Later, the Spanish Civil War from 1936 to 1939 became a precursor to the larger conflict. Finally, the 1938 Munich Conference represented the last major attempt to avert war.

205. (D) Appeasement
The Munich Agreement of 1938 is widely regarded as the most significant strategic failure of the policy of appeasement. By conceding the Sudetenland to Nazi Germany, Britain and France hoped to prevent a general European war. However, this concession only emboldened Hitler to pursue further aggressive territorial expansion. The ultimate failure demonstrated that making minor concessions to revisionist powers often invites aggression.

206. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The inability of the League of Nations to prevent the Second World War led to a major shift in international relations theory. Scholars argued that the "utopian" or "idealist" beliefs in international institutions and collective security had failed because they ignored the harsh realities of power politics and human nature. This failure directly spurred the rise of classical realism.

207. (D) The success of the Disarmament Conference of 1932.
Several factors contributed to the outbreak of the Second World War, including the perceived harshness of the Versailles Treaty, the failure of collective security, and the aggressive expansionism of the Axis powers. However, the 1932 World Disarmament Conference was a notable failure rather than a success. Its inability to achieve meaningful reductions in military capabilities allowed for the continued rearmament.

208. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
The Soviet Union did not fight alongside the Axis powers for the entire duration of World War II. Initially, it signed a non-aggression pact

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with Germany in 1939. However, this strategic arrangement collapsed in 1941 when Nazi Germany launched a massive invasion of Soviet territory. Following this betrayal, the Soviet Union joined the Allied forces, playing a decisive role in the conflict.

209. (B) Revisionist powers
Revisionist powers are states that are deeply dissatisfied with the current distribution of power and the rules of the international system. These nations actively seek to alter the existing territorial status quo and challenge the established order to better reflect their own interests and ambitions. This stands in contrast to status quo powers, which aim to preserve and defend current international arrangements.

210. (D) The rise of economic nationalism and competitive devaluations.
The extreme economic devastation of the Inter-War period caused a breakdown in international cooperation. As nations struggled with depression and unemployment, they turned toward economic nationalism and competitive devaluations to gain an advantage over trading partners. These protectionist measures further strangled global commerce and increased geopolitical tensions, ultimately contributing to the collapse of the international order and the rise of regimes.

211. (D) The credible threat of unacceptable retaliation.
Deterrence is a strategic concept that aims to prevent an opponent from taking a specific action by convincing them that the costs will far outweigh any potential benefits. It relies on the credible threat of unacceptable retaliation. For deterrence to be effective, the opponent must believe that the state has both the capability and the resolve to carry out its threat.

212. (A) III, I, II, IV
Cold War history followed a specific sequence of landmark events. It began with the 1947 Truman Doctrine, which established the containment policy. This was followed by the technological competition of the 1957 Sputnik launch and the high-stakes 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis. Finally, the era concluded with the 1989 fall of the Berlin Wall, signaling the imminent collapse of the bloc.

213. (D) It was entirely a voluntary alliance of equal partners.
The Warsaw Pact was a military alliance created by the Soviet Union in 1955 as a direct response to West Germany's entry into NATO. While it theoretically consisted of sovereign states, it was heavily dominated by Moscow. It was not a voluntary alliance of equals; instead, it served as a mechanism for the Soviet Union to maintain control over satellites.

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214. (D) MAD - Mutual Agreement on Disarmament
Cold War security was managed through various treaties and strategic concepts. While the NPT, SALT, and ABM are correctly identified as arms control frameworks, MAD is incorrectly paired here. MAD actually stands for Mutually Assured Destruction, a strategic reality where neither superpower would launch a first strike for fear of a devastating retaliatory response, rather than a formal agreement.

215. (A) The Security Dilemma
The security dilemma is a core concept in realism that explains how the pursuit of safety can inadvertently lead to conflict. When one state builds up its military for purely defensive purposes, it causes fear and uncertainty in others. In response, those states also rearm, leading to an escalatory spiral. This dynamic leaves all parties less secure than initially.

216. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Decolonisation fundamentally shifted the focus of international politics toward North-South dynamics. As numerous new nations achieved independence, they brought their shared concerns to the forefront of the global agenda. These states sought to address the structural economic inequalities that persisted even after political liberation. This shift forced the international system to confront issues of development alongside traditional Cold War security competition.

217. (D) Membership in the G-8.
States in the Global South typically share several characteristics, including a history of colonial rule, the use of South-South cooperation, and advocacy for a more equitable international economic order. However, they are not members

of the G-8. The G-8 consists of the world's most advanced, industrialized, and wealthy economies, which are predominantly located in the Global North, representing different grouping.

218. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Dependency theory challenges the traditional modernization view that underdevelopment is an original state to be overcome. Instead, it argues that underdevelopment is an active process caused by the unequal and exploitative integration of nations into the global capitalist system. In this framework, the progress of wealthy core nations is directly linked to the structural underdevelopment and continued dependency of states.

219. (D) UNCTAD
The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is the primary international body focused on advancing the economic interests of the Global South. Established in 1964, it provides a forum for developing nations to address issues of trade, investment, and development. UNCTAD plays a critical role in researching and advocating for policies that can rectify global inequalities and support sustainable growth.

220. (D) Grapple with issues of globalization, regionalism, and intra-state conflict.
The conclusion of the Cold War fundamentally changed the nature of international relations. Rather than a return to the systems of the past, the discipline had to adapt to a more complex global landscape. Scholars and policymakers began to focus on the challenges of rapid globalization, the rise of regional integration, and the increasing frequency of violent intra-state conflicts globally.

221. (A) The state to the individual.
Human security represents a major conceptual shift in international relations. Unlike traditional security, which focuses on protecting the state from external threats, human security makes the individual the primary referent object. This broader approach addresses a wide range of threats to human well-being, including poverty, disease, environmental degradation, and political repression, emphasizing that security must include freedom from fear.

222. (A) I, II, IV
The post-Cold War era brought several significant shifts, including a major increase in UN peacekeeping missions and the expansion of international criminal law. The system also moved into a "unipolar moment" dominated by the United States. However, contrary to a decrease, this period was actually characterized by a rapid and unprecedented surge in global economic integration and transnational markets.

223. (D) It argues that future conflicts will be primarily economic and ideological.
Samuel Huntington's "Clash of Civilizations" thesis argues that in the post-Cold War world, the primary sources of conflict will not be economic or ideological. Instead, he proposed that future struggles will be driven by cultural and religious identities. According to this view, different civilizations will clash along fault lines where their varied values and beliefs meet, replacing state competition.

224. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
International relations history can be categorized by varied power distributions. The Cold War featured bipolarity, while the earlier 19th century was characterized by a multipolar Concert of Europe. The immediate post-Cold War period saw a unipolar moment. In recent years, scholars have identified a move toward non-polarity, where power is diffused across a networked world with various state and non-state actors.

225. (A) Transnational threats and governance.
Analyzing the impact of global pandemics requires a shift in focus from traditional interstate competition. These events are primary examples of transnational threats that transcend national borders and cannot be managed by any single state alone. This analysis emphasizes the importance of global governance and international cooperation, highlighting how sovereignty is challenged by issues that require a coordinated and collective response.

226. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalisation has significantly constrained the ability of states to control the flow of information within their borders. This is because rapid advancements in digital technology and the

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internet allow for near-instantaneous cross-border data flows. Consequently, governments find it increasingly difficult to censor information or prevent their citizens from accessing global ideas, challenging traditional concepts of state-centered cultural authority.

227. (D) Import Substitution Industrialization
Economic globalization is closely associated with trade liberalization, high capital mobility, and the growth of foreign direct investment. Each of these features facilitates the integration of national economies into global markets. Conversely, Import Substitution Industrialization is a protectionist strategy that seeks to reduce dependency on global trade by developing domestic manufacturing. Therefore, this policy is fundamentally a rejection of globalization.

228. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The World Trade Organization is unique among international organizations because its dispute settlement mechanism has the authority to issue binding rulings. Contrary to being ignored, these rulings carry significant weight because they can authorize retaliatory trade measures. While states may sometimes resist, most members generally comply with findings to maintain the predictability and benefits of the global rules-based system.

229. (B) The European Union
The European Union is the most advanced example of regional economic integration in response to the forces of globalization. By creating a single market with a common currency and shared regulations, member states aim to enhance their collective economic strength and global competitiveness. This integration allows European nations to better manage the pressures of global competition while maintaining their standards within a unified bloc.

230. (D) The Tragedy of the Commons on a global scale.
Widespread environmental degradation caused by transnational industrial activity is a classic example of the "Tragedy of the Commons" applied globally. When individuals or states act in their own short-term self-interest, they can overexploit or pollute shared global resources, such as the atmosphere. This problem highlights the need for coordinated international governance to manage resources that no state has power to protect.

231. (A) An authority that transcends national borders, to which states delegate some sovereignty.
Supranationalism is a form of international cooperation where states voluntarily delegate some of their sovereign powers to a central authority that transcends national borders. This authority has the power to make decisions that are binding on member states in specific policy areas. This concept is most fully realized in the European Union, where regional institutions have jurisdiction over various economic issues.

232. (A) I, III, IV
Various historical configurations have shaped the global order. The Treaty of Westphalia codified sovereignty, while the Cold War was defined by ideological proxy conflicts. Decolonisation significantly expanded the international community and United Nations membership. However, the Inter-War period was not a time of robust growth; it was instead marked by extreme instability and the impact of the Great Depression.

233. (D) They use the General Assembly to articulate norms and development goals.
While nations of the Global South lack permanent seats on the Security Council, they play a vital role within the United Nations General Assembly. Because each state has an equal vote, these countries use the Assembly as a primary platform to articulate and promote new international norms and development goals. This allows them to influence the global agenda on economic equity and decolonisation.

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234. (D) Nixon Doctrine - Massive deployment of US ground troops in Asia
Foreign policy doctrines provide frameworks for state action. While the Brezhnev, Monroe, and Truman doctrines are correctly summarized, the Nixon Doctrine is incorrectly paired. It actually sought to reduce direct American involvement in foreign wars by encouraging allies to take primary responsibility for their own defense. This strategy aimed to avoid the kind of ground troop deployments that characterized Vietnam.

268. (A) Elevated tension and strategic deterrence between global blocs
During the Cold War era, international relations were characterized by a constant state of high anxiety and the threat of mutual destruction. This environment relied on strategic deterrence to prevent direct military confrontation between the opposing superpower blocs. States operated within a framework where every diplomatic move was measured against its potential to disrupt the delicate and dangerous global balance of power.

269. (C) It suppressed it, replacing it with proxy engagements
The bipolar structure of the post-war era fundamentally changed the nature of conflict by limiting direct competition between multiple independent states. Instead, traditional rivalries were often absorbed into the larger ideological struggle, manifesting as proxy wars in various regions. This suppression of multi-state competition ensured that local conflicts were frequently viewed and managed through the lens of superpower strategic interests.

270. (D) Absorption into the overarching Cold War framework
In the years following the second global conflict, localized and regional concerns were rarely treated as isolated incidents by the international community. Instead, these issues were immediately drawn into the dominant ideological struggle between the major superpowers. This absorption meant that regional dynamics were consistently shaped and constrained by the broader strategic requirements of the bipolar global political system.

271. (C) Marginalised territories achieving sovereignty
The process of decolonization represented a monumental shift in global politics by allowing previously controlled territories to gain independent statehood. This transformation significantly increased the number of sovereign actors participating in the international system, fundamentally changing its demographic makeup. As these marginalized regions became self-governing, they began to assert their presence and interests within the established frameworks of international diplomacy.

272. (B) Reorganising to include the Global South as a collective actor
Area Studies researchers interpret the era of decolonization as much more than a simple change in governance. It was a systemic reorganization that facilitated the emergence of the Global South as a unified force in international politics. This collective identity allowed newly independent nations to challenge existing power structures and advocate for a more inclusive and representative global political order.

273. (D) Redefining a system that had historically excluded their interests
Upon gaining independence, states in the Global South actively worked to transform international political structures that had long ignored their needs. Their primary goal was to ensure that the global system accounted for their perspectives and addressed long-standing inequities. By pushing for these changes, these newly sovereign nations sought to secure a more equitable role within the international community.

274. (A) Issues of developmental disparity and equitable representation
The entry of the Global South into the international arena brought critical new concerns to the forefront of global diplomatic discussions. These newly sovereign states emphasized the importance of addressing economic inequalities and ensuring that all nations had a fair voice in global decision-making. Consequently, international diplomacy began to focus more heavily on developmental challenges and the need for structural reforms.

275. (C) To continuously adjust diplomatic strategies to accommodate diverse demands
The rise of the Global South required established world powers to significantly alter their approach to international relations. Traditional diplomatic methods had to be adapted to meet the diverse and often conflicting needs of a much larger group of sovereign states. This ongoing adjustment was necessary to maintain stability in a political arena that had become increasingly globalized and complex.

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similar challenges related to development. The term reflects a collective identity within the hierarchical international political and economic system.

244. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Landmark treaties and conferences have defined the evolution of the international system. The Peace of Westphalia established state sovereignty, while the Congress of Vienna created the Concert of Europe. Following World War I, the Treaty of Versailles founded the League of Nations. Finally, the San Francisco Conference in 1945 resulted in the creation of the United Nations, shaping the global order.

245. (A) Transnationalism and complex interdependence
When analyzing the impact of multinational corporations on global governance, scholars utilize the concepts of transnationalism and complex interdependence. These frameworks examine how non-state actors operate across borders, creating deep economic and social ties that transcend traditional state boundaries. This perspective highlights how the power of major corporations can shape international norms and the overall behavior of sovereign states in a globalized world.

246. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The post-Cold War era has been profoundly characterized by the expansion of globalization. A primary driver of this trend was the collapse of the Soviet bloc, which allowed for the integration of many previously closed economies into the global capitalist market. This transition opened new regions to international trade, significantly increasing the level of worldwide economic interconnectedness and transnational markets.

247. (D) The Holy Roman Empire
Post-Cold War international relations involve a diverse range of influential actors, including international NGOs, transnational terrorist networks, and powerful multinational corporations. These non-state entities interact alongside sovereign states to shape global outcomes. However, the Holy Roman Empire is not an actor in this period. It was a medieval political structure that was formally dissolved in 1806, long before the contemporary era.

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248. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
While globalization facilitates the movement of capital and information, it has not brought about the end of territorial borders. Sovereign states continue to maintain and defend their boundaries to regulate migration, enforce laws, and ensure national security. Even in a highly interconnected world, borders remain a fundamental legal and physical reality that defines the limits of state authority and control.

249. (A) Advanced economies capture more value from high-tech and financial services compared to resource-exporting states.
Globalization can exacerbate inequality between states because advanced economies are better positioned to benefit from the modern system. These nations capture significantly more value through high-tech manufacturing, intellectual property, and sophisticated financial services. In contrast, many developing states remain focused on resource extraction, which often yields lower returns. This structural difference in economic roles perpetuates the global wealth gap.

250. (B) Policies of global institutions often cause local socio-economic disruptions, sparking grassroots pushback.
The relationship between local resistance movements and global economic institutions is often one of tension. The policies mandated by organizations like the IMF or World Bank can cause significant socio-economic disruptions within states, such as cuts to public services or labor reforms. These impacts frequently spark intense grassroots pushback and social movements as citizens react against perceived loss of local control.

251. (B) The concept of shared nationalism
In the foundational phase of International Relations, the emergence of nation states was driven by ideological shifts that consolidated state authority. This process utilized shared identity as a mechanism to bind diverse populations under a single sovereign entity. Consequently, this specific ideology provided the necessary framework for

235. (A) Neoliberal Globalisation
The transition of states from command economies to integration with global markets is a core feature of neoliberal globalisation. This process involves policies such as privatization, deregulation, and the reduction of trade barriers to encourage market-led development. By aligning their domestic systems with the principles of the global capitalist economy, these nations aim to attract international investment and participate in economic interconnectedness.

236. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Area Studies experienced rapid growth during the Cold War as a direct result of superpower competition. Both the United States and the Soviet Union recognized that they needed specialized, in-depth knowledge of different global regions to formulate effective strategic and foreign policies. This demand for regional expertise led to increased academic focus on the political and cultural nuances of the world.

237. (D) The sudden military collapse of the United States.
Several factors explain the end of the Cold War, including Soviet economic overextension, the ideational shift brought by Gorbachev's reforms, and the roles of individual leaders. However, there was no sudden military collapse of the United States. Instead, the US emerged from the conflict as the world's sole superpower, while the Soviet Union disintegrated due to its internal crises.

238. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The post-Cold War era has been increasingly defined by the rise of China as a major systemic challenger to the unipolarity of the United States. This shifting power dynamic is frequently analyzed through the "Thucydides Trap." This historical concept describes the inherent tension and potential for conflict that arises when an established hegemon is confronted by a rapidly growing rising power.

239. (D) A fragmented system of states, institutions, and non-state actors.
Contemporary global governance is best characterized as a complex and fragmented system. Rather than a unified world government, it consists of sovereign states, diverse international institutions, and influential non-state actors like multinational corporations and NGOs. These various entities interact across multiple layers of authority to manage global issues. This multifaceted structure reflects the diffusion of power in an interconnected multipolar world.

240. (A) The rise of data as a critical strategic and economic resource in international relations.
The fundamental shift from industrial capitalism to digital information networks has profoundly changed international relations. One major consequence is the rise of data as a critical strategic and economic resource. Control over information, cyber capabilities, and digital infrastructure has become a primary source of competition among states. This digital transformation has reshaped everything from economic productivity to national security.

241. (B) Seeking to alter the existing distribution of power and rules of the international system.
Revisionism in international relations refers to the behavior of states that are dissatisfied with the current global order. These nations actively seek to alter the existing distribution of power and challenge the established rules and territorial status quo. By pursuing these changes, revisionist powers aim to create a system that better reflects their own national interests and ambitions, causing instability.

242. (A) I, II, III, IV
The academic study of international relations has evolved through several dominant paradigms. It began with post-WWI idealist utopianism, followed by the rise of classical realism during the Cold War. Later, the field was dominated by the debate between neorealism and neoliberalism. Most recently, social constructivism has emerged, focusing on how ideas and social identities shape the world beyond material power.

243. (D) It is a political and socio-economic construct replacing the term 'Third World'.
The concept of the "Global South" is primarily a political and socio-economic construct rather than a simple geographic label. It has largely replaced the Cold War-era term "Third World" to describe nations that share common historical experiences of colonialism and face

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failure to provide viable alternatives to military confrontation.

260. (A) A complete re-evaluation of how international relations were conducted
The catastrophic failures inherent in the rigid pre-war international system eventually forced global leaders to rethink their approaches to diplomacy. This necessary reassessment aimed to address the systemic flaws that had permitted global crises to emerge unchecked. Consequently, the aftermath of this period signaled the start of a broader search for new architectural frameworks that could better manage state competition.

261. (D) As a landscape struggling to establish durable stability between conflicts
The period between the two major global wars is described by academic researchers as a time of significant transition and persistent instability. During this era, the international community faced immense difficulties in creating a lasting framework for peace following previous systemic collapses. The landscape was marked by a constant struggle to reconcile competing national interests with the need for collective security.

262. (B) Tension between residual nationalism and collective security
Case studies of the years between the world wars reveal a deep-seated conflict between old identity-driven ambitions and new institutional efforts to prevent war. This tension arose as states attempted to implement collective security measures while still being influenced by the competitive nationalist ideologies of the past. This ideological friction hindered the development of a cohesive and stable international political system.

263. (C) Because conflict-prevention mechanisms proved inadequate against state ambitions
The fundamental fragility of the inter-war international system was primarily due to the failure of new institutions to effectively restrain aggressive states. These mechanisms, though designed to ensure peace, were ultimately unable to counter the persistent territorial and political desires of various nations. As a result, the structural safeguards proved insufficient to protect the global community from resurfacing regional and international conflicts.

264. (D) It allowed regional instabilities to fester and eventually escalate further
The failure to build a unified and effective international framework after the First World War led to severe consequences for regional security. Without a cohesive system to manage disputes, local tensions were left unaddressed, providing fertile ground for broader escalations. These unresolved issues eventually undermined global cooperation and contributed to the return of widespread conflict across the international political landscape.

265. (A) A gap showing transitional instability
International relations theorists often view the inter-war years as a critical period defined by the inability of states to successfully navigate global demands. This era represents a significant gap in the development of stable international structures, highlighting the dangers of transitional uncertainty. The period serves as a historical lesson on how structural deficiencies can lead to catastrophic failures in global governance.

266. (B) A predominance of the Cold War and a rigid, bipolar structure
Following the Second World War, the global landscape transitioned into a new paradigm centered on the rivalry between two primary superpowers. This period was defined by a bipolar distribution of power that reorganized international politics into distinct, competing blocs. This structural arrangement dictated the behavior of states globally, as ideological divisions became the primary lens through which international relations were conducted.

267. (B) They replaced the system defined merely by fragmented nationalism
The post-war international system underwent a major transformation as comprehensive ideological divides took precedence over simpler forms of state identity. This shift meant that international politics were no longer driven solely by localized national interests but were instead integrated into a broader global competition. These ideological frameworks impacted every region, forcing states to align themselves with one of the two major powers.

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benefits and significant challenges. While it creates new avenues for nations to work together on global issues, it also tends to widen the gap between wealthy and developing nations. These simultaneous impacts mean that while some regions prosper, others, particularly in the Global South, face increased economic hardship.

285. (C) It forces a continuous re-evaluation of what constitutes effective governance
In the contemporary international system, the traditional models of state management are no longer sufficient to address global challenges. Globalization compels leaders and theorists to rethink their understanding of how a state should be governed in a world without rigid borders. This ongoing re-evaluation is necessary to develop new strategies that can effectively manage the complexities of modern interconnectedness.

286. (D) The ongoing legacy of historical decolonisation
The historical process of achieving independence continues to be a major factor in how modern nations in the Global South conduct their foreign affairs. This enduring legacy shapes their perspectives on sovereignty and their interactions within the international system. By understanding these historical roots, one can better interpret the strategic decisions and political motivations of states that were once colonized.

287. (C) Fostering solidarity to counterbalance powerful nation states
Nations within the Global South often draw on their common history of struggling for independence to build strong political alliances. This collective approach is designed to provide them with greater leverage when dealing with more traditionally powerful and influential countries. By working together, these states can more effectively promote their shared interests and challenge the dominance of established world powers.

288. (B) Systemic reforms to address historical inequities
During international diplomatic meetings, states from the Global South consistently push for changes to the global political and economic order. Their goal is to rectify the imbalances and injustices that were established long before they achieved their independence. These efforts for systemic reform are aimed at creating a more equitable international environment where all nations have fair opportunities for development.

289. (D) To accurately interpret present-day alliances and voting blocs
To fully understand current global political alignments, it is essential for international relations theory to consider the long-term effects of decolonization. The historical transitions experienced by many nations continue to influence their modern partnerships and voting behaviors in international organizations. Without accounting for these factors, it is impossible to gain a complete picture of contemporary diplomatic relations and strategic alliances.

290. (A) A transformative, boundary-pushing force
The continued influence of the decolonization process ensures that the Global South remains a dynamic and influential participant in world politics. These nations are seen as a force that constantly challenges existing hierarchies and pushes for more inclusive international frameworks. Their presence ensures that the international political landscape continues to evolve away from the rigid structures of the past.

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291. (C) The sudden collapse of rigid bipolarity
The transition from the Cold War to the post-Cold War era was driven by the unexpected breakdown of the two-power global structure. This major shift required a complete rethink of how international politics and regional studies were conducted. As the old system disappeared, the previous rules of global interaction were no longer applicable, leading to a period of intense intellectual and practical reassessment.

292. (A) It suppressed them by constraining international relations
During the period of superpower rivalry, regional conflicts were often kept in check by the overarching needs of the global competition. The rigid alliance structures of the Cold War meant that local disputes were frequently managed or limited to prevent them from interfering with larger strategic goals. This constraint ensured that regional dynamics remained secondary

276. (A) The eventual dissolution of the bipolar structure
The end of the Cold War was marked by the collapse of the two-bloc system that had previously dominated global politics. This transition removed the rigid ideological barriers that defined international relations for decades, leading to a new era of global interaction. As the bipolar structure dissolved, the international community entered a period of significant change characterized by increased fluidity and unpredictability.

277. (D) A shift from bipolarity to a multifaceted system
In the post-Cold War era, researchers have observed a profound change in the organization of the international community. The predictable rivalry between two superpowers gave way to a more complex and diverse system involving multiple centers of power and influence. This multifaceted landscape required states to navigate a wider range of political, economic, and security relationships than ever before.

278. (B) Diverse regional dynamics studied within Area Studies
With the removal of the dominant Cold War strategic standoff, regional political environments began to exert more independent influence on the global stage. These diverse dynamics, which had been previously suppressed by bipolar competition, re-emerged as critical factors in international relations. Area Studies became increasingly important as scholars sought to understand the unique characteristics and histories shaping these newly prominent regional actors.

279. (C) Resurfacing nationalist sentiments and regional instabilities
Despite initial optimism for a new era of global cooperation following the Cold War, several factors complicated this goal. The re-emergence of old nationalistic feelings and the outbreak of local conflicts in various parts of the world created new challenges for international stability. These resurfacing tensions demonstrated that the end of ideological bipolarity did not automatically lead to sustained global peace.

280. (D) Adaptation to the sudden removal of structural constraints
The study of the period following the Cold War offers valuable insights into how the international community responds to major systemic shocks. This era highlights the processes by which states and institutions adjust to the disappearance of long-standing political and ideological frameworks. Understanding this adaptation is essential for analyzing how new models of global stability are formed in a rapidly changing world.

281. (A) Alteration of traditional boundaries and functional capabilities
Modern globalization has fundamentally transformed the nature of the nation state by eroding its traditional territorial and political limits. This process has changed how states exercise their authority and manage their internal affairs in an increasingly connected world. As a result, the functional capabilities of governments are now frequently challenged by external forces that transcend conventional national borders.

282. (B) Trans-border flows of capital bypassing state control
A key feature of globalization is the rapid movement of information and finance across national boundaries, often without the direct oversight of state governments. This dynamic undermines the traditional concept of sovereignty, as states find it increasingly difficult to regulate these global flows. The inability to fully control capital and information highlights a major shift in the power of nation states.

283. (B) A continuous adaptation of their domestic and foreign policies
To remain effective in a globalized world, nation states must constantly revise their internal and external strategies. This ongoing adaptation is necessary to respond to the vulnerabilities and interdependencies created by increased international interconnectedness. States that fail to adjust their policies risk being marginalized in a system where domestic issues are increasingly linked to global economic and political trends.

284. (A) Opportunities for cooperation plus systemic inequalities
Globalization is described as having dual effects on the international community, providing both

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states to transition from fragmented political organizations into unified territorial structures.

252. (A) Loyalty transfer from fragmented entities to territorially defined states
Researchers examining the evolution of political organizations highlight a significant transition where traditional loyalties were completely redefined. During this era, political systems moved away from small, disconnected units toward cohesive and clearly bounded nation states. This structural shift allowed for the centralized exercise of power, which fundamentally changed how individuals identified with their broader political and social environments.

253. (C) The recognition of mutual boundaries by sovereign entities
The formation of early modern nation states led to a fundamental restructuring of how independent political units interacted globally. This change centered on the mutual acknowledgement of specific territorial limits between sovereign states, replacing older, less defined systems. By establishing these clear boundaries, states were able to create a more stable and predictable framework for conducting long-term diplomatic relations.

254. (D) Legitimacy to exert control and engage in international politics
During the period of state formation, nationalism functioned as a vital ideological tool that provided the justification for centralized authority. This ideological backing allowed the state to effectively govern its domestic populace while simultaneously participating in the broader global political arena. Without this inherent legitimacy, the state would have struggled to consolidate its power and maintain its sovereign standing.

255. (C) To understand how contemporary regional dynamics were originally shaped
Scholars specializing in Area Studies emphasize the historical roots of modern political landscapes by examining early nationalist movements. These foundational ideologies were responsible for carving out the initial territorial boundaries that continue to influence regional interactions today. By tracing these origins, researchers gain critical insights into the historical forces that established the basic architectural framework for all subsequent international political developments.

256. (B) As a highly rigid and competitive structure in international politics
The international system preceding the first global conflict is characterized by academic observers as having a structure defined by intense rivalry and lack of flexibility. This competitive environment was driven by state-centric ambitions that prioritized individual power over collective stability. The inherent rigidity of these political arrangements created a volatile atmosphere, as states lacked the mechanisms to navigate tensions peacefully.

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257. (D) Nationalism intensifying into competitive state behavior
The global system before the First World War was heavily shaped by earlier currents of identity-based ideologies that had evolved into aggressive rivalry. This intensification of state-centric motivations led to a more confrontational approach to foreign policy among major powers. The transition from simple state formation to competitive behavior created friction points that significantly destabilized the existing international political order.

258. (A) Around precarious balances of power among major nation states
During the era leading up to global conflict, diplomatic interactions were primarily organized through fragile equilibrium strategies among the most powerful nations. This focus on maintaining power balances often resulted in unstable alliances that were prone to collapse under pressure. Area Studies experts note that these structures were inherently vulnerable, as they relied on constant strategic competition rather than cooperation.

259. (C) The lack of flexible conflict-resolution mechanisms in the system
A critical deficiency within the pre-war international framework was the absence of adaptable methods for resolving disputes between competing states. This structural gap meant that even minor disagreements could escalate into major crises without the intervention of formalized diplomatic safeguards. The volatility of this period was largely a result of this systemic

to the main bipolar struggle between the two superpowers.

293. (D) A highly volatile environment
Once the structural constraints of the Cold War were removed, the international political landscape became much less predictable and stable. The absence of a clear power balance led to an atmosphere of uncertainty where new security threats could emerge rapidly. This volatile environment required states to be more flexible and responsive, as the old certainties of the bipolar world had vanished completely.

294. (B) New foreign policy doctrines suitable for a multipolar or unipolar world
In response to the collapse of the Cold War system, governments had to quickly create fresh strategies for dealing with the rest of the world. These new approaches were designed to navigate a global landscape that was no longer dominated by two opposing blocs. States needed to find their place in a world that could be dominated by one power or several competing ones.

295. (C) Vulnerability when structural pillars are suddenly removed
The transition between the Cold War and the post-Cold War eras revealed how fragile the international system can be when its foundational structures fail. This period showed that the removal of long-standing power arrangements can lead to widespread instability and confusion. Researchers point to this vulnerability as a key reason why it is crucial to study major historical shifts in international relations.

296. (D) The tension between traditional nationalism and the modern impact of globalisation
Current international politics are marked by a deep conflict between the desire for national identity and the forces of global interconnectedness. This tension arises as states try to maintain their unique cultural and political boundaries while participating in a highly integrated global economy. The resulting friction shapes many of the challenges faced by modern governments as they navigate a complex world.

297. (A) Challenging rigid boundaries via interconnectedness
The process of globalization works to break down the strict territorial and political limits that once defined the modern nation state. By promoting extreme levels of economic and social connection, it makes traditional borders less relevant and harder to maintain. This challenge to the old system of sovereign states is a central theme in contemporary studies of international relations and politics.

298. (B) Reactive nationalism to preserve distinct identities
As globalization attempts to standardize systems and reduce the barriers between states, it often provokes a strong defensive response from populations. This surge in nationalist feeling is a way for people to protect their unique culture and control over their own affairs. This reaction shows that many still value the nation state as a source of identity.

299. (B) Economic necessities versus domestic nationalism pressures
Governments today face the difficult task of managing two conflicting sets of demands in their daily operations. They must engage with the global economy to ensure their nation's prosperity while also responding to the internal desire for national sovereignty and identity. This balancing act is a defining feature of modern politics, requiring careful negotiation between international needs and domestic expectations.

300. (A) A defensive mechanism against perceived erosions of state sovereignty
In the context of a highly integrated global system, nationalism has evolved into a tool for protecting the power and independence of the state. It is often used to counter the sense that global forces are taking away a country's ability to govern itself. Analysts see this transformed version of nationalism as a direct consequence of the pressures exerted by modern globalization.

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CHAPTER 03

Contemporary World Order

1. Which of the following best defines the concept of 'polycentrism' in contemporary international relations?
(A) A system dominated by two major superpowers with equal military and ideological capabilities.
(B) A system featuring multiple, interacting centers of power across state and non-state actors.
(C) A global order characterized by a single hegemon dictating international norms and rules.
(D) A global structure where international organizations have absolute sovereignty over nation-states.

2. Which scholar is most prominently associated with the assertion that the post-Cold War world experienced a "unipolar moment"?
(A) Charles Krauthammer
(B) Kenneth Waltz
(C) John Mearsheimer
(D) Alexander Wendt

3. Identify the correct statement regarding bipolarity.
(A) It inherently requires at least three major powers to maintain equilibrium.
(B) It relies exclusively on soft power dynamics between two nations.
(C) It describes a system where the majority of global economic and military power is held by two states.
(D) It was the defining characteristic of the world order immediately following the Treaty of Westphalia.

4. Identify the incorrect statement concerning multipolarity.
(A) It features several major powers of roughly equal strength.
(B) Alliances in a multipolar system are typically more fluid than in a bipolar system.
(C) The Concert of Europe is often cited as a historical example of a multipolar system.
(D) Classical realists argue that multipolarity is the most stable international system.

5. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Unipolar systems are generally considered inherently durable and permanent in international relations theory.
Reason (R): Secondary powers inevitably fail to form balancing coalitions against a benign hegemon due to economic dependencies.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

6. Identify the correct pair of international order terminology and its primary historical reference.
(A) Bipolarity - Interwar period (1919-1939)
(B) Unipolarity - Immediate post-Cold War era
(C) Multipolarity - Cold War era
(D) Polycentrism - 19th Century Pax Britannica

7. Identify the incorrect pair regarding the transition of world orders.
(A) Fall of Berlin Wall - End of strict bipolarity
(B) Rise of BRICS - Shift toward multipolarity
(C) 1991 Gulf War - Demonstration of US unipolarity
(D) Suez Crisis (1956) - Consolidation of polycentrism

8. All of the following are typically considered primary features of a multipolar world order, EXCEPT:
(A) Strict ideological bloc discipline
(B) Shifting alliances

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(C) Presence of three or more major powers
(D) Balance of power politics

9. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of 'hegemonic stability theory'?
(A) The global order requires at least two equal powers to maintain peace.
(B) Hegemons inevitably cause global wars to maintain their status.
(C) The international system is most stable when there is a single dominant state.
(D) International organizations can completely replace the need for a hegemon.

10. Match List I with List II.
List I: (Concept)
P. Unipolarity
Q. Bipolarity
R. Multipolarity
S. Polycentrism
List II: (Characteristic)
1. Fluid alliances and multiple major powers
2. Concentration of power in one state
3. Diffuse power among state and non-state entities
4. Rigid alliance blocs around two superpowers
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

11. To effectively analyze the shift from unipolarity to multipolarity, a scholar must primarily evaluate changes in which of the following?
(A) Shifts in the domestic electoral systems and internal governance of developing nations.
(B) The proliferation of non-governmental organizations and their influence on global policy.
(C) The global expansion of cultural exports and media influence from states in the global south.
(D) The distribution of material capabilities and economic output among major sovereign states.

12. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Neorealists argue that bipolar systems are highly prone to miscalculation and frequent systemic wars.
Statement II: Kenneth Waltz posited that bipolarity is more stable than multipolarity because the two superpowers can focus exclusively on each other.
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

13. A small island nation observes the rise of two massive military powers in its region. To ensure its survival, it decides to sign a mutual defense pact with one of them, despite ideological differences. This scenario best illustrates which systemic behavior?
(A) Bandwagoning
(B) Non-alignment
(C) Balancing
(D) Polycentric diplomacy

14. How does the concept of polycentrism apply to modern global governance?
(A) It seeks to centralize all legal and political authority within the United Nations system.
(B) It enforces a rigid and strict bipolar division of all global economic and trade markets.
(C) It necessitates the immediate and total dissolution of all existing sovereign nation-states.
(D) It highlights governance occurring through a complex web of overlapping authorities.

15. Consider the following statements regarding the changing patterns of world order:
1. Unipolarity is characterized by an absence of peer competitors to the hegemon.
2. Multipolar systems historically exhibit more flexible alliance structures than bipolar systems.
3. Polycentrism relies solely on the military capabilities of nation-states.
4. Bipolarity during the Cold War involved significant proxy conflicts.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4
(B) 1, 3, and 4
(C) 2, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 2, and 3

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2. Transformationalists argue that globalisation is fundamentally reshaping state sovereignty.
3. Sceptics argue that the current level of global integration is unprecedented and irreversible.
4. Cultural globalisation often faces resistance due to fears of cultural homogenization.
5. Technological advancements have drastically reduced the costs of global communication.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 4, and 5
(B) 1, 3, 4, and 5
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 5

51. Identify the incorrect pair regarding theories of globalisation.
(A) Hyperglobalists - Believe the nation-state is becoming obsolete
(B) Sceptics - Emphasize regionalism over true globalisation
(C) Marxists - View globalisation as a new stage of Western imperialism
(D) Transformationalists - Argue globalization has no impact on domestic politics

52. All of the following represent examples of political globalisation, EXCEPT:
(A) The expansion of the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court.
(B) The signing of multilateral climate change agreements.
(C) The growing influence of the United Nations.
(D) The implementation of autarkic economic policies by a sovereign state.

53. Which of the following is the most appropriate indicator of a transition toward a multipolar world order?
(A) The sudden and total collapse of all established international financial institutions.
(B) A single nation consistently contributing to over 80% of global defense spending.
(C) The emergence of alternative institutional frameworks like the BRICS Development Bank.
(D) The signing of a global treaty banning the use of all conventional military weapons.

54. An understanding of "complex interdependence," a key feature of globalism, requires analyzing:
(A) Analysis of strict bipolar military alliances and zero-sum economic policies between states.
(B) Analysis of multiple channels connecting societies and the minor role of military force.
(C) The total and exclusive domination of international relations by multinational corporations.
(D) The absolute decline of global trade volumes and the rise of protective economic barriers.

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55. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Democratisation is often viewed as a stabilizing factor in the contemporary world order.
Reason (R): Democratic states never engage in armed conflict under any circumstances.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

56. The theory that democracies are highly unlikely to go to war with one another is known as:
(A) Democratic Peace Theory
(B) Hegemonic Stability Theory
(C) Neoclassical Realism
(D) Constructivism

57. Who authored the influential book "The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century"?
(A) Francis Fukuyama
(B) Robert Dahl
(C) Samuel P. Huntington
(D) Larry Diamond

58. Identify the correct statement regarding "democratic backsliding."
(A) It involves the gradual erosion of democratic

3. India's pursuit of a permanent UNSC seat reflects its desire for a polycentric world order.
4. The EU functions purely as a military alliance without economic integration.
5. Russia leverages its energy resources as a tool of foreign policy.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 5
(B) 2, 3, 4, and 5
(C) 1, 3, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 2, 4, and 5

26. Which of the following is the most appropriate characterization of India's contemporary "multi-alignment" strategy?
(A) Engaging in issue-based partnerships with various global powers simultaneously.
(B) A strict neutrality that avoids any international partnerships.
(C) Forming a military alliance exclusively against China.
(D) Subordinating foreign policy to the dictates of the Non-Aligned Movement secretariat.

27. An analyst observing Japan's recent increase in defense spending and participation in the Quad would likely conclude that Japan is:
(A) Reverting to 1930s-style imperial expansion and regional military aggression.
(B) Abandoning its long-standing security alliance with the United States of America.
(C) Planning to withdraw completely from the integrated global economic system.
(D) Transitioning toward a "normal state" posture in response to regional threats.

28. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The European Union often acts as a single entity in international trade negotiations.
Statement II: The European Union possesses a fully integrated, singular European military force that has replaced national armies.
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

29. A European nation faces a severe energy shortage due to an ongoing geopolitical conflict involving Russia. To mitigate this, it rapidly shifts its reliance from Russian natural gas to renewable energy sources and liquefied natural gas (LNG) from the US. This case highlights which dynamic in the contemporary world order?
(A) The absolute and permanent decline of American economic power.
(B) The irrelevance of natural resources in contemporary geopolitics.
(C) The weaponization of energy interdependence by major global powers.
(D) The failure of the systemic transition toward a multipolar order.

30. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is often viewed by Western analysts as a strategy to alter the global order.
Reason (R): The BRI relies solely on cultural exchange programs without any infrastructure or debt implications.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

31. The concept of "Soft Power," crucial to understanding the influence of major powers, was coined by which theorist?
(A) Joseph Nye
(B) Robert Keohane
(C) Samuel Huntington
(D) Francis Fukuyama

32. Which global forum primarily consists of the world's major advanced and emerging economies, playing a central role in polycentric economic governance?
(A) G7
(B) G20
(C) ASEAN
(D) OPEC

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33. Identify the correct statement concerning the United States' role in the contemporary world order.
(A) The US has completely withdrawn its military from the Indo-Pacific region.
(B) The US dollar's status as the global reserve currency underpins its hegemony.
(C) The US advocates for a strictly bipolar world shared with the European Union.
(D) US foreign policy inherently opposes any form of democratic governance abroad.

34. Identify the incorrect statement regarding Japan's global role.
(A) Japan's constitution explicitly encourages the use of war to settle disputes.
(B) Japan is a major contributor to global Official Development Assistance (ODA).
(C) Japan is a core member of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) forum.
(D) Japan remains one of the world's largest national economies by total GDP.

35. Match List I with List II.
List I: (Major Power)
P. China
Q. Russia
R. United States
S. India
List II: (Strategic Concept / Foreign Policy Tool)
1. "Neighborhood First" policy
2. "Pivot to Asia"
3. "Belt and Road Initiative"
4. "Near Abroad" concept
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

36. Identify the correct pair regarding an international organization and its dominant regional member.
(A) SCO - European Union
(B) NATO - Russia
(C) ASEAN - United States
(D) SAARC - India

37. Identify the incorrect pair regarding major powers and their currency.
(A) US - Dollar
(B) China - Renminbi
(C) Japan - Won
(D) EU - Euro

38. All of the following are widely recognized as structural challenges to the European Union's influence in the global order, EXCEPT:
(A) The political and economic impact of the Brexit withdrawal.
(B) Internal disagreements among member states on foreign policy.
(C) The current lack of a unified and integrated European military.
(D) Its status as the world's largest exporter of raw petroleum.

39. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of "Globality"?
(A) A political ideology that advocates for the total elimination of all national borders.
(B) The formal process of expanding free trade agreements between major economic blocs.
(C) The explicit rejection of international norms and laws by sovereign nation-states.
(D) A social condition characterized by tight global economic and political interconnections.

40. Consider the following statements about Globality, Globalism, and Globalisation:
1. Globalisation is the dynamic process of increasing interconnectedness.
2. Globalism refers to ideologies that endow the concept of globalisation with particular values and meanings.
3. Globality is the static end-state or condition of being globalized.
4. Market globalism advocates for heavy state intervention in international trade.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3
(B) 2, 3, and 4
(C) 1, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 2, and 4

41. To assess the impact of 'market globalism' on developing nations, a scholar should primarily investigate:
(A) The increase in traditional folklore festivals and local cultural celebrations.

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(B) The rapid expansion of fully nationalized and state-funded healthcare systems.
(C) The deregulation of domestic markets and integration into global supply chains.
(D) The strict enforcement of closed borders and the rejection of foreign capital.

42. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Justice globalism advocates for equitable distribution of wealth and environmental protection worldwide.
Statement II: Neoliberal globalism focuses primarily on the unrestricted movement of capital and goods.
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

43. A multinational corporation decides to shift its manufacturing from a developed country to a developing country to capitalize on lower labor costs and fewer environmental regulations, selling the finished products back to the developed world. This phenomenon is a direct application of:
(A) Protectionism
(B) Import Substitution Industrialization
(C) Economic Globalisation
(D) Technological Globalization

44. What is the primary cause of the "digital divide" in the context of the global order?
(A) The achievement of universal and affordable access to high-speed internet for all.
(B) Unequal distribution of technology and digital literacy between and within nations.
(C) The significant overproduction of microchips and hardware in developing countries.
(D) The complete ban on all international technology transfers by global governance.

45. Which scholar wrote extensively on the "hyperglobalist," "sceptic," and "transformationalist" perspectives of globalisation?
(A) John Mearsheimer
(B) Immanuel Wallerstein
(C) David Held
(D) Robert Cox

46. What does the term "glocalization" mean?
(A) The complete eradication of local cultures by dominant global economic forces.
(B) The absolute isolation of a local economy from all forms of international trade.
(C) The centralization of global governance within a single, prominent local city.
(D) The adaptation of global ideas, products, or processes to local contexts.

47. Identify the correct statement regarding 'Globalism'.
(A) An ideological framework that interprets and promotes the process of globalisation.
(B) A purely economic theory that possesses no significant political or social dimensions.
(C) A strategy designed to dismantle all forms of international and regional cooperation.
(D) A concept that is synonymous with aggressive and exclusive forms of hyper-nationalism.

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48. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the anti-globalisation movement.
(A) It protests against the perceived inequalities generated by neoliberal policies.
(B) It is a monolithic movement with a single unified ideology globally.
(C) It often targets institutions like the WTO, IMF, and World Bank.
(D) It includes diverse groups ranging from environmentalists to labor unions.

49. Identify the correct pair regarding dimensions of globalisation and their indicators.
(A) Economic Globalisation - Rise of nationalized border walls
(B) Political Globalisation - Proliferation of international NGOs
(C) Cultural Globalisation - Implementation of strict tariffs
(D) Environmental Globalisation - Isolationist foreign policies

50. Consider the following statements about globalisation and the world order:
1. Economic globalisation has led to the rise of transnational corporations.

4. The spread of democracy has historically been uneven and subject to reversals.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3
(B) 1, 3, and 4
(C) 2, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 2, and 4

66. To promote democratisation in a post-conflict society, an international body's most effective initial competency would involve:
(A) Establishing a transitional justice system and organizing monitored elections.
(B) Immediately withdrawing all foreign aid to force economic and political self-reliance.
(C) Imposing a single-party system to maintain strict internal order and social stability.
(D) Banning all local media outlets and centralizing all communication within the state.

67. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The European Union requires candidate countries to have stable institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, and human rights.
Statement II: The Copenhagen Criteria govern the accession of new member states to the EU.
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

68. A country undergoes a revolution deposing a dictator, holds one successful election, but the newly elected leader systematically dismantles the independent judiciary and arrests opposition leaders over the next five years. This case is a classic example of:
(A) Successful and sustainable democratic consolidation.
(B) The establishment of a stable polycentric order.
(C) Achieving long-term hegemonic stability in the region.
(D) Democratic backsliding toward competitive authoritarianism.

69. What is a primary cause of the "democratic deficit" in international organizations?
(A) Their executive leaders are directly elected by frequent global referendums.
(B) They possess too many member states with conflicting national interests.
(C) Decision-making processes often lack direct accountability to the global public.
(D) They operate with absolute transparency and open access for all global citizens.

70. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The proliferation of science and technology in the 21st century has significantly altered the balance of power in the global order.
Reason (R): Cyber capabilities and artificial intelligence allow smaller states or non-state actors to project asymmetric power against larger states.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

71. Which term describes the merging of national security concerns with technology policy, where states heavily intervene in tech sectors to ensure geopolitical dominance?
(A) Cyber-liberalism
(B) Digital egalitarianism
(C) Open-source globalism
(D) Techno-nationalism

72. In the context of global order, what does 'cyber warfare' primarily refer to?
(A) State-sponsored attacks on information systems to disrupt or destroy infrastructure.
(B) Diplomatic arguments and formal disputes conducted primarily over encrypted email.
(C) The global regulation and legal oversight of international e-commerce platforms.
(D) The use of conventional kinetic weapons to destroy physical telecommunication towers.

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norms, institutions, and liberties within a state.
(B) It refers to the rapid transition of an authoritarian regime into a liberal democracy.
(C) It is a phenomenon exclusively found in states that have never held elections.
(D) It strengthens the independence of the judiciary and media.

59. Arrange the following events related to waves of democratization in chronological order:
1. The Carnation Revolution in Portugal (start of the Third Wave)
2. The collapse of the Soviet Union
3. The Arab Spring
4. Allied victory in World War II (start of the Second Wave)

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) 4, 1, 2, 3
(B) 1, 4, 2, 3
(C) 4, 2, 1, 3
(D) 1, 2, 4, 3

60. Match List I with List II.
List I: (Democratisation Concept)
P. First Wave of Democracy
Q. Second Wave of Democracy
R. Third Wave of Democracy
S. Arab Spring
List II: (Historical Context)
1. Post-WWII decolonization and restructuring
2. 19th Century expansion of suffrage in Western Europe/US
3. Early 2010s uprisings in the Middle East and North Africa
4. Late 20th Century transitions in Southern Europe, Latin America, and post-Soviet states

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

61. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the relationship between democratisation and global order.
(A) Western powers have often used the promotion of democracy as a foreign policy tool.
(B) Democratic peace theory has heavily influenced liberal internationalist foreign policies.
(C) The UN Charter explicitly mandates that all member states must be liberal democracies.
(D) Authoritarian resurgences challenge the liberal world order.

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62. Identify the correct pair regarding democratic transitions.
(A) Velvet Revolution - The violent and bloody overthrow of a stable democratic regime.
(B) Color Revolutions - A series of traditional military coups across Latin America.
(C) Perestroika - The establishment of strict and unyielding totalitarianism in Russia.
(D) Apartheid dismantling - Transition to multiracial democracy in South Africa.

63. Identify the incorrect pair regarding elements of a consolidated democracy.
(A) Rule of Law - Subordination of all to the law, including leaders
(B) Free and Fair Elections - Regular, competitive electoral processes
(C) Accountability - Mechanisms to check the power of the executive
(D) Civil Society - State-controlled media and trade unions

64. All of the following are considered domestic drivers of democratisation, EXCEPT:
(A) Economic development and the rise of a middle class
(B) Foreign military occupation
(C) Strong civil society organizations
(D) Widespread popular dissatisfaction with authoritarian corruption

65. Consider the following statements about Democratisation and the World Order:
1. The 'End of History' thesis argued that liberal democracy is the final form of human government.
2. Democratic backsliding only occurs through sudden military coups.
3. Multilateral institutions often struggle to effectively enforce democratic norms on powerful member states.

Regulation (GDPR) has forced multinational tech companies to adapt their global data practices.

In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

81. In analyzing the geopolitics of technology, assessing a nation's 'innovation capacity' requires evaluating:

(A) Assessing the historical archives and scientific records from the 18th century.
(B) Evaluating R&D investment, STEM education, and intellectual property frameworks.
(C) Analyzing the number of agricultural subsidies provided to local small-scale farmers.
(D) Measuring the total size and current readiness of its standing conventional army.

82. Given below are two statements.

Statement I: The "digital divide" only exists between the Global North and the Global South.

Statement II: The digital divide can also be observed within individual countries, such as between urban and rural populations.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

83. A state restricts its citizens' access to foreign news websites and creates indigenous alternatives to major social media platforms. It also mandates that all citizen data be stored locally. This scenario is a practical application of:

(A) Cyber-utopianism
(B) Digital globalization
(C) Cyber sovereignty
(D) Open-source diplomacy

84. What is the primary cause of geopolitical tension surrounding the deployment of 5G infrastructure globally?

(A) The scientifically proven health risks associated with 5G radio waves and signals.
(B) The significantly slower speeds of 5G networks when compared to 4G technology.
(C) The high manufacturing cost of consumer smartphones and network hardware components.
(D) Concerns over data security, espionage, and reliance on foreign infrastructure vendors.

85. Match List I with List II.

List I: (Scholar/Theorist)

P. Francis Fukuyama
Q. Samuel P. Huntington
R. Kenneth Waltz
S. Joseph Nye

List II: (Associated Concept)

1. Clash of Civilizations
2. Soft Power
3. End of History
4. Neorealism/Structural Realism

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1

86. Which theory argues that international institutions and economic interdependence can mitigate the anarchic nature of the world order?

(A) Classical Realism
(B) Neoliberal Institutionalism
(C) Post-colonialism
(D) Offensive Realism

87. Identify the correct statement regarding "Offensive Realism" and world order.

(A) It argues that states are inherently peaceful and consistently seek cooperation.
(B) It suggests that polycentrism is the only system that guarantees perpetual peace.
(C) It focuses entirely on domestic political structures rather than the international system.
(D) Great powers seek to maximize their power to achieve regional hegemony.

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73. Identify the correct statement regarding the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on the global order.
(A) AI has no significant military applications and remains a strictly commercial technology.
(B) The development of AI is completely regulated by a unified and binding global treaty.
(C) AI can accelerate decision-making in conflicts, potentially destabilizing deterrence models.
(D) The proliferation of AI technology inherently and universally promotes global democratisation.

74. Identify the incorrect statement about space technology and international relations.
(A) Commercial entities like SpaceX have no impact on state-level space geopolitics.
(B) Space is increasingly viewed as a contested warfighting domain by major powers.
(C) The Outer Space Treaty of 1967 completely bans the placement of weapons of mass destruction in orbit.
(D) Satellite technology is critical for modern military reconnaissance and communication.

75. Consider the following statements regarding Science, Technology, and Global Order:
1. The US and China are engaged in strategic competition over semiconductor manufacturing.
2. Technology transfer regulations are tools used to maintain technological hegemony.
3. Social media platforms have had no discernible impact on domestic political stability in developing nations.
4. The militarization of space is entirely prohibited and effectively prevented by the UN.
5. Autonomous weapons systems raise significant ethical and legal challenges in international humanitarian law.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 5
(B) 2, 3, and 4
(C) 1, 3, and 5
(D) 1, 2, 4, and 5

76. Identify the correct pair regarding technology and its geopolitical implication.
(A) 5G Networks - Irrelevant to national security concerns
(B) Semiconductors (Microchips) - The "new oil" driving strategic competition
(C) Quantum Computing - A mature technology fully regulated by the WTO
(D) Social Media Algorithms - Proven to universally enhance democratic peace

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77. Identify the incorrect pair regarding international technological frameworks.
(A) Wassenaar Arrangement - Export controls for conventional arms and dual-use goods
(B) Outer Space Treaty - Framework on international space law
(C) Paris Agreement - Global internet governance protocol
(D) NPT - Prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation

78. All of the following are examples of asymmetric threats enabled by modern technology, EXCEPT:
(A) Ransomware attacks on national infrastructure by non-state hacker groups.
(B) The use of commercial drones by insurgent forces for reconnaissance.
(C) Disinformation campaigns conducted via automated social media bots.
(D) A traditional tank battle between two superpower armies.

79. Which of the following best describes the concept of a "splinternet"?
(A) The fragmentation of the internet due to national regulations and censorship.
(B) A globally unified and completely open internet accessible to all human beings.
(C) The physical network of fiber-optic cables connecting different continents.
(D) A theoretical global internet system powered solely by renewable energy sources.

80. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The European Union has emerged as a global regulatory superpower in the technology sector.
Reason (R): The EU's General Data Protection

16. What is the primary effect of polycentrism on traditional state sovereignty?
(A) It absolutely strengthens state sovereignty against external threats and international norms.
(B) It causes a diffusion of authority, thereby diluting traditional state sovereignty.
(C) It leads to the immediate and irreversible collapse of the global nation-state model.
(D) It completely replaces state sovereignty with the legal authority of corporate entities.

17. Which term defines a state's foreign policy approach that seeks to maintain mutually beneficial relations with multiple major powers without formal alliance commitments?
(A) Isolationism
(B) Strategic Autonomy
(C) Bandwagoning
(D) Containment

18. Which US President's administration is most closely associated with the geopolitical strategy known as the "Pivot to Asia"?
(A) Barack Obama
(B) George W. Bush
(C) Donald Trump
(D) Joe Biden

19. Identify the correct statement regarding the role of Russia in the contemporary world order.
(A) Russia advocates for a strictly unipolar world order led exclusively by the United States.
(B) Russia relies heavily on its technological sector while completely ignoring energy exports.
(C) Russia seeks to establish a multipolar world order to counterbalance Western hegemony.
(D) Russia's foreign policy dictates a total isolation from all emerging markets in Asia.

20. Arrange the following events related to the changing world order in chronological order:
1. Dissolution of the Soviet Union
2. Formation of the BRICS grouping
3. Cuban Missile Crisis
4. Announcement of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) 3, 1, 2, 4
(B) 1, 3, 2, 4
(C) 3, 2, 1, 4
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4

21. Identify the incorrect statement about China's role in the global order.
(A) China is the primary initiator of the Belt and Road Initiative.
(B) China's economic rise has made it a central player in global supply chains.
(C) China explicitly rejects the concept of multipolarity in favor of unipolarity.
(D) China has increasingly utilized "wolf warrior" diplomacy in recent years.

22. Identify the correct pair concerning major powers and their strategic frameworks.
(A) EU - Implementation of aggressive Wolf Warrior Diplomacy
(B) Japan - Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) framework
(C) India - Global application of the Cold War Truman Doctrine
(D) Russia - Development of the EU Strategic Compass initiative

23. Identify the incorrect pair regarding regional policies.
(A) USA - Monroe Doctrine (Historically)
(B) India - Look East / Act East Policy
(C) EU - European Neighbourhood Policy
(D) China - Near Abroad Policy

24. All of the following are instruments of the European Union's "normative power," EXCEPT:
(A) Direct unilateral military annexation of neighboring states
(B) Human rights conditionalities in trade agreements
(C) Promotion of democratic institutions
(D) Environmental regulations and standards

25. Consider the following statements about the role of major powers:
1. The US maintains global projection capabilities through its extensive network of military bases.
2. Japan's post-WWII foreign policy was heavily constrained by Article 9 of its constitution.

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88. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the BRICS grouping.
(A) It functions as a formal military alliance with a mutual defense clause akin to NATO.
(B) It was originally coined as an economic acronym by a Goldman Sachs economist.
(C) It includes Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa as core members.
(D) It aims to reform global financial governance to better represent emerging economies.

89. Identify the correct pair regarding the levels of analysis in international relations.
(A) Individual Level - The structure of the international system
(B) State Level - The psychological traits of a specific leader
(C) Systemic Level - The anarchic nature of global politics
(D) Global Level - The domestic lobbying by agricultural groups

90. Consider the following statements about the role of the US in the contemporary order:
1. The US has frequently utilized economic sanctions as a primary tool of foreign policy.
2. The Bretton Woods institutions were established under US leadership post-WWII.
3. The US has never engaged in unilateral military action.
4. The rise of China presents the most significant peer-competitor challenge to US hegemony.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3
(B) 1, 2, and 4
(C) 2, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 3, and 4

91. Identify the incorrect pair regarding regional organizations and their nature.
(A) EU - Supranational political and economic union
(B) ASEAN - Intergovernmental organization focusing on consensus
(C) African Union - Continental union for integration and cooperation
(D) MERCOSUR - Asian military alliance

92. All of the following factors contribute to the concept of a state's "Hard Power," EXCEPT:
(A) Nuclear weapons arsenal
(B) Cultural appeal of its cinema and music
(C) Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
(D) Size and technological advancement of its naval fleet

93. Which of the following best represents the concept of a "revisionist state" in the contemporary world order?
(A) A state that strictly adheres to the status quo and defends existing international institutions.
(B) A state that voluntarily relinquishes its military capabilities.
(C) A state that seeks to alter the existing distribution of power and international norms to its advantage.
(D) A state that completely isolates itself from international trade.

94. To effectively evaluate the degree of "Bipolarity" during the Cold War, a scholar must apply the competency of assessing:
(A) The exact number of independent and active environmental NGOs across the African continent.
(B) The domestic healthcare and social welfare policies adopted by various non-aligned nations.
(C) The frequent fluctuations in global coffee and agricultural prices during the mid-20th century.
(D) The military, economic, and ideological concentration of power within the US and Soviet blocs.

95. Consider the following statements about global governance:
1. Polycentrism implies multiple, overlapping spheres of authority.
2. Globalisation has weakened the absolute sovereignty of the traditional Westphalian state.
3. Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) act independently without any influence from member states.
4. Non-state actors, such as multinational corporations, play a significant role in polycentric governance.
5. The UN Security Council structure perfectly reflects the current polycentric distribution

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Q. Democratic Peace Theory
R. Complex Interdependence
S. Hegemonic Stability

List II: (Primary Focus)

1. Prevention of systemic dominance by any single state
2. Provision of global public goods by a dominant power
3. Peaceful relations among states sharing specific domestic governance models
4. Interconnectedness reducing the utility of military force

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(C) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(D) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4

111. To accurately analyze a state's level of integration into the globalized economy, an economist should primarily assess:

(A) The ratio of its trade (exports plus imports) to its GDP.
(B) Its number of UNESCO World Heritage sites.
(C) The size of its nuclear arsenal.
(D) The constitutional status of its official religion.

112. Given below are two statements.

Statement I: "Washington Consensus" refers to a set of free-market economic policies supported by prominent financial institutions like the IMF and World Bank.

Statement II: The "Washington Consensus" strongly advocates for the nationalization of private industries.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

113. A developing nation adopts policies to deeply integrate into the global financial system. Consequently, a sudden stock market crash in Wall Street immediately triggers a severe economic recession in this nation. This illustrates:

(A) Autarky
(B) Financial contagion due to economic globalization
(C) The success of protectionist policies
(D) The military dominance of the unipolar power

114. What is the primary cause of "democratic backsliding" in established democracies?

(A) The gradual erosion of institutional checks and balances by elected leaders.
(B) The sudden and violent invasion of a sovereign state by hostile foreign powers.
(C) The national adoption of universal basic income and extensive social welfare.
(D) The formal signing of bilateral free trade agreements with multiple partners.

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115. Consider the following statements about Globality, Globalism, and Globalization:

1. Globality represents the end-state of a fully interconnected world.
2. Anti-globalization movements focus entirely on promoting cultural homogenization.
3. Market globalism seeks to endow globalization with neoliberal values.
4. Globalization is characterized by the compression of time and space.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

(A) 1, 2, and 3
(B) 1, 3, and 4
(C) 2, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 2, and 4

116. Which term describes the political ideology that frames the world as divided into two opposing groups: "the pure people" and "the corrupt elite," often challenging liberal democratic norms?

(A) Pluralism
(B) Cosmopolitanism
(C) Technocracy
(D) Populism

117. Identify the correct definition of "Bandwagoning" in international relations.

(A) When states form strategic alliances to counteract and balance against a rising hegemon.
(B) When a sovereign state declares strict and absolute neutrality during an active conflict.
(C) When weaker states align with a dominant

103. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).

Assertion (A): Globalization has led to a completely homogenous global culture, eradicating all local traditions.

Reason (R): Transnational media conglomerates export Western cultural products globally.

In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is false but R is true.
(D) A is true but R is false.

104. Identify the correct statement regarding 'Global Governance'.

(A) The rules, norms, and institutions that manage global affairs without a global government.
(B) The formal existence of a centralized, sovereign world government with legislative power.
(C) A system entirely controlled and directed by the United Nations General Assembly resolutions.
(D) A framework that strictly rejects the participation of all non-governmental organizations.

105. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).

Assertion (A): India's pursuit of multi-alignment is an attempt to navigate a multipolar world order.

Reason (R): Multi-alignment allows India to maximize its strategic autonomy and pursue national interests across rival power blocs.

In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

106. Identify the correct pair regarding elements of globalization.

(A) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) - Economic Globalization
(B) Spread of Hollywood movies - Political Globalization
(C) International Criminal Court - Cultural Globalization
(D) Transnational Pandemics - Military Globalization

107. Identify the incorrect statement regarding theoretical perspectives on global order.

(A) Realism - State-centric, focuses on power and survival
(B) Liberalism - Emphasizes institutions, trade, and cooperation
(C) Feminism - Highlights gender dynamics and inequalities in global politics
(D) Marxism - Focuses on the psychological traits of individual leaders

108. All of the following are characteristics of "complex interdependence" EXCEPT:

(A) The presence of multiple and diverse channels of contact between different societies.
(B) The existence of a clear hierarchy of issues with military security always at the top.
(C) The declining utility and irrelevance of military force in specific systemic contexts.
(D) The growing and significant importance of transnational and non-state global actors.

109. Which of the following is the most appropriate definition of "Techno-nationalism"?

(A) A policy promoting the free and open sharing of all technological innovations across the globe.
(B) The belief that technology should be governed and regulated exclusively by international bodies.
(C) An ideology linking technology directly to national security and economic prosperity.
(D) A social movement advocating for the total abandonment of all forms of digital technology.

110. Match List I with List II.

List I: (IR Theory/Concept)

P. Balance of Power

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(A) The competency to launch aggressive and unprovoked nuclear strikes against rivals.
(B) The technical ability to completely and permanently shut down the global internet.
(C) Withstanding, adapting to, and recovering from major attacks on critical systems.
(D) The authority to censor all printed newspapers and traditional media within the state.

142. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: "Globality" refers to the continuous, dynamic process of integration.
Statement II: "Globalization" refers to the static condition or end-state of a fully interconnected world.
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

143. A state implements a "digital firewall" to monitor and control inbound and outbound internet traffic, effectively creating a sovereign internet ecosystem. This action is most strongly associated with the concept of:
(A) Techno-nationalism / Cyber-sovereignty
(B) Global cyber-anarchy and lawlessness
(C) Digital universalism and open access
(D) Strict net neutrality and regulation

144. What is a primary political consequence of polycentrism on global governance mechanisms like the UN?
(A) It makes the UN the absolute global sovereign and the final authority on all law.
(B) It causes gridlock and necessitates alternative, informal groupings to solve problems.
(C) It eliminates the need for any form of diplomatic engagement or cooperation.
(D) It immediately and permanently resolves all international border and sea disputes.

145. Which term describes the global dominance of Western political, economic, and cultural values, often critiqued by post-colonial theorists?
(A) Multipolar pluralism
(B) Eurocentrism / Western Hegemony
(C) Global South solidarity
(D) Polycentric equilibrium

146. Identify the primary characteristic of "Systemic Rivalry" in contemporary world order (e.g., between the US and China).
(A) Competition over the fundamental rules, norms, and structure of the world order.
(B) Competition solely over minor and inconsequential territorial disputes between states.
(C) Friendly economic competition within a mutually agreed and stable global framework.
(D) The absolute refusal of systemic rivals to engage in any form of diplomatic talk.

147. Identify the correct statement regarding "Unipolarity."
(A) It implies the hegemon can control every single event and actor in international politics.
(B) Unipolarity is characterized by constant, systemic world wars and ideological conflict.
(C) A system lacking peer competitors with the capacity to challenge the hegemon.
(D) Unipolarity always leads to the immediate and total internal collapse of the hegemon.

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148. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the Global South.
(A) It generally refers to developing or emerging economies that share historical experiences of colonialism.
(B) It seeks greater representation in global governance institutions.
(C) Countries like India and Brazil are considered prominent voices of the Global South.
(D) It is a geographical term that strictly includes only countries physically located in the Southern Hemisphere.

149. Identify the correct pair regarding security frameworks.
(A) Quad - Military alliance between China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea
(B) NATO - Economic trade bloc in South America
(C) AUKUS - Security partnership involving Australia, UK, and US

power to ensure survival and share spoils.
(D) When an international organization imposes economic sanctions on a specific rogue state.

118. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the concept of 'Sovereignty' in the contemporary world.
(A) It traditionally means a state has supreme authority within its territorial boundaries.
(B) Globalization has completely eradicated the concept of state sovereignty globally.
(C) Humanitarian intervention challenges the absolute nature of Westphalian sovereignty.
(D) Polycentric governance requires states to share authority with non-state actors in certain domains.

119. Identify the correct pair regarding international political economy approaches.
(A) Mercantilism - Advocates for free, unrestricted global trade
(B) Economic Liberalism - Supports state intervention to maximize relative wealth
(C) Constructivism - Argues that economics is completely independent of politics
(D) Marxism - Views the global economy as an arena of capitalist exploitation

120. Arrange the following technological advancements in chronological order of their profound impact on the global order:
1. Invention of the atomic bomb
2. Widespread adoption of the internet
3. The Industrial Revolution (steam power)
4. Commercial deployment of 5G telecommunications

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) 3, 1, 2, 4
(B) 1, 3, 2, 4
(C) 3, 2, 1, 4
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4

121. Identify the incorrect pair regarding the waves of democratization.
(A) First Wave - Historical period from 1828 to 1926
(B) Second Wave - Commenced following World War II
(C) Fourth Wave - Triggered by the French Revolution
(D) Third Wave - Began in 1974 with the Portugal coup

122. All of the following are widely considered non-state actors that influence the polycentric world order, EXCEPT:
(A) The United Nations Security Council
(B) Amnesty International
(C) Transnational Corporations (TNCs)
(D) Terrorist organizations like Al-Qaeda

123. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The World Trade Organization (WTO) is struggling to function effectively in the contemporary multipolar order.
Reason (R): The dispute settlement mechanism of the WTO has been paralyzed due to major powers blocking the appointment of appellate judges.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

124. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of "Normative Power Europe" (NPE)?
(A) The EU's ability to project hard military power and engage in global kinetic warfare.
(B) Shaping the 'normal' in IR through values, principles, and international rules.
(C) The EU's historical strategy of aggressive and permanent territorial expansionism.
(D) The EU's direct and absolute control over global oil reserves and energy markets.

125. Consider the following statements about Science, Technology, and Global Order:
1. The spread of digital surveillance technologies can bolster authoritarian regimes.
2. Space militarization is entirely a concept of science fiction and has no real-world basis.
3. Quantum computing poses a future threat

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(D) The sudden and permanent depletion of all global oil and fossil fuel reserves.

158. Define "Strategic Hedging" in the context of contemporary world order.
(A) Completely isolating a state's economy from all forms of global market engagement.
(B) Unconditionally surrendering national sovereignty to a dominant regional hegemon.
(C) Initiating preemptive nuclear strikes against all potential regional and global rivals.
(D) Balancing economic engagement with a rising power while maintaining security ties to another.

159. Identify the correct statement regarding "Soft Power".
(A) It is the ability to shape the preferences of others through appeal and attraction.
(B) It is solely determined by the size of a state's military budget.
(C) It relies on coercion and financial payments to achieve desired outcomes.
(D) It is an obsolete concept in the 21st century.

160. Match List I with List II.
List I: (Regional Integration Concept)
P. Free Trade Area
Q. Customs Union
R. Common Market
S. Economic Union
List II: (Defining Feature)
1. Free movement of goods, services, labor, and capital
2. Elimination of internal tariffs
3. Harmonization of macroeconomic policies and a common currency
4. Elimination of internal tariffs plus a common external tariff
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(C) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

161. Identify the incorrect statement regarding global environmental governance.
(A) Climate change is a quintessential transnational issue requiring polycentric governance.
(B) The principle of "Common but Differentiated Responsibilities" places equal historical blame on all nations.
(C) The Paris Agreement relies on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
(D) Developing nations argue that developed nations should bear more financial burden for climate mitigation.

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162. Identify the correct pair regarding democratic theories.
(A) Procedural Democracy - Focuses merely on the holding of elections
(B) Substantive Democracy - Ignores civil liberties and social equality
(C) Deliberative Democracy - Focuses on absolute dictatorial rule
(D) Direct Democracy - Representatives make all decisions without public input

163. Identify the incorrect pair regarding global economic institutions.
(A) IMF - Manages balance of payments difficulties
(B) World Bank - Finances long-term development projects
(C) OPEC - Promotes universal human rights
(D) WTO - Regulates international trade

164. All of the following are characteristics of the "Liberal World Order" EXCEPT:
(A) Open, rules-based trade
(B) Multilateral institutionalism
(C) Respect for state sovereignty combined with human rights norms
(D) Strict adherence to mercantilist economic policies

165. Consider the following statements about the role of Russia:
1. Russia seeks to maintain a sphere of influence in its "Near Abroad."
2. Russia's annexation of crimea in 2014 was a direct challenge to the post-Cold War territorial order in Europe.
3. Russia possesses one of the world's largest nuclear arsenals.
4. Russia is a leading member of the European Union.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

(C) World Trade Organization (WTO)
(D) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

133. Identify the correct statement regarding China's "String of Pearls" strategy.
(A) It refers to China's domestic agricultural development and food security planning.
(B) It is an alliance framework established strictly with various European nations.
(C) A network of Chinese military and commercial facilities along Indian Ocean sea lines.
(D) It refers to China's specific strategy for dominating and militarizing outer space.

134. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the United Nations (UN).
(A) The UN Security Council has five permanent members with veto power.
(B) The UN General Assembly resolutions are legally binding on all member states.
(C) It was established in 1945 following the end of World War II.
(D) Its primary objective is the maintenance of international peace and security.

135. Match List I with List II.
List I: (Key Event/Policy)
P. Brexit
Q. Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)
R. "America First" Doctrine
S. "Strategic Autonomy"
List II: (Associated Entity)
1. United States
2. China
3. European Union/France
4. United Kingdom
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(B) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

136. Identify the correct pair regarding global order concepts.
(A) Unipolarity - Post-Cold War USA
(B) Multipolarity - Cold War USA and USSR
(C) Bipolarity - Pre-WWI Europe
(D) Polycentrism - The Roman Empire

137. Identify the incorrect pair regarding international relations paradigms.
(A) Realism - Anarchic system
(B) Liberalism - Absolute gains
(C) Constructivism - Material capabilities determine all behavior
(D) Institutionalism - Mitigation of the security dilemma

138. All of the following are primary pillars of the "Liberal International Order" established post-WWII, EXCEPT:
(A) Closed, autarkic command economies
(B) Free trade capitalism
(C) Multilateral institutions
(D) Promotion of liberal democracy

139. Arrange the following phases of globalization in chronological order:
1. Archaic Globalization (Silk Road trade)
2. Post-Cold War Hyperglobalization
3. Proto-Globalization (Age of Discovery)
4. Modern Industrial Globalization (19th Century)
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) 1, 3, 4, 2
(B) 3, 1, 4, 2
(C) 1, 4, 3, 2
(D) 4, 1, 3, 2

140. Consider the following statements about democratization:
1. The "Transitology" paradigm assumes that all democratizing states will eventually reach liberal democratic consolidation.
2. Illiberal democracies hold elections but fail to protect civil liberties.
3. The Arab Spring resulted in stable, consolidated democracies across the entire Middle East.
4. Economic wealth guarantees a successful democratic transition.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1 and 2
(B) 2 and 3
(C) 1 and 4
(D) 3 and 4

141. Evaluating a state's "cyber resilience" involves determining its competency to:

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to current encryption methods used in global security.

4. "Data sovereignty" refers to a state's desire to control the digital data generated within its borders.
5. Technological decoupling refers to the deliberate severing of tech integration between major powers.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3, 4, and 5
(B) 2, 3, 4, and 5
(C) 1, 2, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 5

126. Applying the concept of "Smart Power" involves:
(A) Using only military force to achieve objectives.
(B) Relying entirely on cultural exchange and diplomacy.
(C) Allowing artificial intelligence to make all foreign policy decisions.
(D) The strategic combination of both hard coercion and soft persuasion.

127. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: India's "Act East Policy" is an upgrade of its previous "Look East Policy," emphasizing greater strategic and economic engagement with the Indo-Pacific.
Statement II: The "Act East Policy" specifically aims to isolate Southeast Asian nations from global trade.
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

128. A nation utilizes highly sophisticated disinformation campaigns across foreign social media networks to influence a democratic election in a rival country. This modern tactic is best classified as:
(A) Kinetic warfare
(B) Cyber/Information warfare
(C) Gunboat diplomacy
(D) Classical peacekeeping

129. What is the primary geopolitical effect of the "Energy Transition" (the shift from fossil fuels to renewables)?
(A) It permanently secures unipolarity for Middle Eastern states and fossil fuel exporters.
(B) Power shifts to those controlling critical minerals and green energy technologies.
(C) It eliminates all forms of geopolitical competition and resource-based conflicts.
(D) It makes the global south completely dependent on the global north for solar energy.

130. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The transition towards a multipolar world order often creates periods of geopolitical instability.
Reason (R): Rising powers demand greater influence in international institutions, leading to friction with established powers resisting the change.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

131. Define the concept of a "Middle Power" in international relations.
(A) A state with no military capability but possessing immense and influential wealth.
(B) A state located strictly at the equator with no significant international influence.
(C) A state that pursues multilateralism and diplomatic mediation via moderate influence.
(D) A state that seeks regional hegemony through the use of nuclear and conventional deterrence.

132. Which global financial institution was primarily created to provide short-term loans to countries facing balance-of-payment crises?
(A) World Bank
(B) Asian Development Bank (ADB)

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(D) Warsaw Pact - Current security alliance of Western Europe

150. Consider the following statements about the role of major powers:
1. Japan's "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" strategy emphasizes maritime security and the rule of law.
2. The EU's "Strategic Compass" aims to strengthen its security and defense capabilities.
3. Russia's economy is highly diversified and largely independent of energy exports.
4. India's foreign policy has shifted from strict non-alignment to multi-alignment.
5. The US utilizes alliances as a core component of its global power projection.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 4, and 5
(B) 1, 3, 4, and 5
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 5

151. Identify the incorrect pair regarding technology and international relations.
(A) Digital Divide - Inequality in internet access
(B) Cyber Espionage - State-sponsored hacking to steal sensitive data
(C) Information Warfare - Use of disinformation to destabilize an adversary
(D) Splinternet - The unification of global internet protocols

152. All of the following are characteristics of "Globalization" EXCEPT:
(A) Absolute state autarky
(B) De-territorialization
(C) Time-space compression
(D) Increasing transnational flows of capital and labor

153. Which of the following is the most appropriate indicator that a state has achieved "Democratic Consolidation"?
(A) The ruling party consistently wins every election with over 99% of the national vote.
(B) The military maintains permanent veto power over all civilian and social legislation.
(C) All actors accept democratic rules as "the only game in town" for the transfer of power.
(D) The state completely bans all opposition media and centralizes all political information.

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154. To assess the impact of globalism on national sovereignty, a student must analyze:
(A) How participation in international regimes restricts a state's unilateral options.
(B) The geological composition and natural resources found along a nation's borders.
(C) The total number of distinct languages and dialects spoken domestically by citizens.
(D) The historical reigns and political influence of ancient monarchs and dynasties.

155. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Polycentrism recognizes the influence of non-state actors in global governance.
Reason (R): Non-state actors such as NGOs and TNCs possess resources and expertise that allow them to shape international norms and policies.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

156. A multinational corporation sues a sovereign government in an international arbitration tribunal over environmental regulations that harm the corporation's profits. This scenario highlights a tension inherent in:
(A) Unipolarity vs. Bipolarity
(B) Economic globalization vs. State sovereignty
(C) Democratic peace theory
(D) The Thucydides Trap

157. What is a key cause of the transition from unipolarity to multipolarity in the 21st century?
(A) The absolute and total military collapse of the United States armed forces.
(B) A formal and binding UN resolution that bans unipolarity in world politics.
(C) Uneven growth rates allowing emerging powers to narrow the capability gap with the US.

of global power.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

(A) 1, 2, and 4
(B) 1, 3, and 5
(C) 2, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 4, and 5

96. Given below are two statements.

Statement I: India's nuclear doctrine is based on the principle of "No First Use" (NFU).

Statement II: India is a formal signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

97. A major global health crisis occurs, and instead of a coordinated response led by a single hegemon, various regional organizations, pharmaceutical corporations, and individual state coalitions lead localized responses. This situation is an example of:

(A) Unipolarity
(B) Polycentric governance
(C) Strict Bipolarity
(D) Hegemonic Stability

98. What is the main cause of the "Thucydides Trap" phenomenon described by Graham Allison in contemporary IR?

(A) A rising power threatens to displace a ruling power, leading to structural stress.
(B) Two declining major powers fighting over a limited pool of remaining global resources.
(C) A global hegemon collapsing internally due to chronic economic and social mismanagement.
(D) Liberal democracies refusing to engage in trade with rising authoritarian or illiberal regimes.

99. Arrange the following international treaties/ agreements in chronological order:

1. Kyoto Protocol
2. Treaty of Westphalia
3. Paris Climate Agreement
4. Establishment of the World Trade Organization (WTO)

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) 2, 4, 1, 3
(B) 2, 1, 4, 3
(C) 4, 2, 1, 3
(D) 2, 4, 3, 1

100. Consider the following statements regarding the European Union (EU):

1. The EU relies heavily on normative power in its foreign policy.
2. The Euro is the official currency of all EU member states without exception.
3. The Schengen Area allows for passport-free movement across participating European nations.
4. The UK left the EU through a process colloquially known as Brexit.
5. The European Parliament is directly elected by EU citizens.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

(A) 1, 2, 3, and 5
(B) 1, 3, 4, and 5
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 2, 4, and 5

101. Define the term 'Near Abroad' as used in contemporary geopolitics.

(A) US strategic and military policy toward nations located in Central and South America.
(B) China's maritime strategy regarding sovereignty and islands in the South China Sea.
(C) Russian terminology for the independent states that emerged after the Soviet collapse.
(D) The European Union's diplomatic and economic relationship with nations in North Africa.

102. Which theoretical approach emphasizes that state identities and interests are socially constructed by shared ideas, norms, and culture rather than given by nature?

(A) Neorealism
(B) Constructivism
(C) Neoliberalism
(D) Marxism

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(A) 1, 2, and 3
(B) 2, 3, and 4
(C) 1, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 2, and 4

166. Which of the following is the most appropriate definition of 'Hegemony' in Gramscian terms as applied to IR?
(A) Pure military dominance and brute force without any ideological appeal to others.
(B) Dominance maintained through coercion and the consent of subordinate states.
(C) A global system of complete and total anarchy with no dominant power or rules.
(D) The voluntary and peaceful dissolution of the dominant state's political authority.

167. Applying the theory of 'Constructivism' to the end of the Cold War requires analyzing:
(A) The exact number of nuclear warheads and conventional forces each side possessed.
(B) The economic collapse of the Soviet Union's agricultural and industrial sectors.
(C) The geographic distance between the capitals of Washington and Moscow in miles.
(D) The shift in ideas and identities between leaders that redefined threat perceptions.

168. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The concept of "Polycentrism" is synonymous with "Multipolarity."
Statement II: Multipolarity strictly refers to power distribution among states, whereas Polycentrism includes state and non-state centers of authority.
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
(D) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.

169. A government uses advanced facial recognition and AI to continuously monitor its citizens and suppress political dissent. This scenario exemplifies the dark side of which relationship?
(A) Science, Technology, and Global Order
(B) Democratization and International Peace
(C) Neoliberalism and Global Market Trade
(D) Constructivism and National Identity

170. Arrange the following waves of democratic transitions in chronological order:
1. Democratization of post-Soviet states (Eastern Europe)
2. Decolonization of Africa and Asia (post-WWII)
3. Democratization of Latin America (1980s)
4. Democratization of Southern Europe (Greece, Spain, Portugal in 1970s)

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) 2, 4, 3, 1
(B) 4, 2, 3, 1
(C) 2, 3, 4, 1
(D) 4, 3, 2, 1

171. Define "De-globalization."
(A) The rapid and continuous expansion of integrated global supply chains and trade.
(B) The universal and mandatory adoption of a single global currency for all nations.
(C) The successful and permanent colonization of outer space by multiple superpowers.
(D) The process of diminishing interdependence and integration between global units.

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172. Which concept explains the paradox where increased democratization leads to short-term internal conflict or external aggression before stabilization?
(A) The Democratic Peace Theory
(B) The Democratization-War hypothesis
(C) Complex Interdependence
(D) Hegemonic Stability Theory

173. Identify the correct statement regarding India's contemporary foreign policy.
(A) It strictly adheres to the non-aligned principles of the 1950s without any modification.
(B) It aims to formally join NATO as a full member.
(C) It seeks to act as a "Net Security Provider" in the Indian Ocean Region.
(D) It advocates for a unipolar world led by China.

174. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the influence of major powers.
(A) The US utilizes the SWIFT financial system as an instrument of geopolitical leverage.

was immediately characterized by perfect multipolarity.
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

223. The proliferation of artificial intelligence in military targeting systems creates the risk of "flash wars." This is an example of:
(A) Technology compressing decision-making timeframes and undermining stability.
(B) Technology enhancing and streamlining complex global diplomatic negotiations.
(C) AI technology inherently and universally promoting global democratization.
(D) The total irrelevance of modern technology in hard power and war calculations.

224. What is the primary cause of "Techno-nationalism"?
(A) The belief that technology is irrelevant to national security and global power.
(B) The realization that controlling critical technologies is essential for power.
(C) A desire to share all scientific and technological breakthroughs globally.
(D) The total collapse of the integrated global internet systems and networks.

225. Consider the following statements about the role of the Global South:
1. It advocates for the democratization of international financial institutions.
2. It represents a unified military alliance challenging NATO.
3. It often utilizes South-South cooperation frameworks.
4. It seeks equitable frameworks for climate change mitigation.
5. It is exclusively composed of nations from Latin America.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3, and 4
(B) 2, 3, and 5
(C) 1, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 2, and 4

226. Define "Geopolitics of Technology."
(A) The intersection of technological innovation and international power competition.
(B) The study of geography's impact on agricultural yields and food distribution.
(C) The promotion of universal digital literacy and education by global NGOs.
(D) The study of ancient tools and their archaeological locations across the world.

227. Identify the correct statement regarding "Bipolarity" during the Cold War.
(A) It was characterized by frequent direct military engagements between the US and the USSR in Europe.
(B) Bipolarity resulted in the complete irrelevance of all other states.
(C) The concept of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) contributed to strategic stability between the two poles.
(D) It was a period devoid of any proxy conflicts.

228. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the UN Security Council (UNSC).
(A) It is the primary body responsible for international peace and security.
(B) Any structural reform to expand permanent membership requires amending the UN Charter.
(C) The veto power of the P5 reflects the distribution of power at the end of WWII.
(D) The "G4 nations" (Brazil, Germany, India, Japan) actively oppose expanding the UNSC.

229. Identify the correct pair regarding elements of polycentric governance.
(A) Intergovernmental Organizations - Amnesty International
(B) Supranational Entities - Individual sovereign states
(C) Non-State Actors - Multinational Corporations and NGOs
(D) Sub-national Actors - The United Nations General Assembly

230. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Democratization globally faced a period of recession or "backsliding" in the early 21st century.

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in recent years.

Statement II: "Wolf Warrior" diplomacy is designed to appease Western nations and concede to their demands.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

183. A country with a rapidly aging population and declining workforce invests heavily in robotics and AI to maintain its global economic standing. This is an example of using technology to:

(A) Mediate and resolve complex domestic political and social disputes.
(B) Isolate the state from all forms of the integrated global economy.
(C) Accelerate the process of democratic backsliding and institutional decay.
(D) Offset demographic decline to maintain structural power in the global order.

184. What is the primary cause of a shift from a unipolar to a multipolar world order?

(A) An increase in balancing behavior, shifting alliances, and regional competition.
(B) The achievement of complete and permanent global military demilitarization.
(C) The immediate strengthening of the United Nations' legal and moral authority.
(D) The total eradication of all non-state actors from the international system.

185. Match List I with List II.

List I: (Country)

P. United States
Q. China
R. Japan
S. India

List II: (Key Foreign Policy Objective/Stance)

1. Pursuing "Strategic Autonomy" and multi-alignment
2. Maintaining a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" (FOIP) to counter coercion
3. Achieving "National Rejuvenation" and reforming global governance to its favor
4. Preserving the rules-based international order and managing systemic competition

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4

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186. Which concept describes the economic strategy where a country seeks to produce all necessary goods domestically to avoid dependence on foreign trade?

(A) Autarky
(B) Interdependence
(C) Globalization
(D) Comparative Advantage

187. Identify the correct statement regarding "Cyber Diplomacy."

(A) It refers exclusively to diplomats using email for traditional communication.
(B) It is a practice explicitly banned by the terms of the Geneva Conventions.
(C) It only involves non-governmental organizations and private technological firms.
(D) It is the use of diplomacy to resolve issues related to international cyberspace.

188. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the "Global South."

(A) It is increasingly utilizing mini-lateral forums like BRICS to amplify its voice.
(B) It represents a homogenous bloc with identical economic and political interests.
(C) It often challenges the perceived inequities of the Bretton Woods institutions.
(D) It demands greater technology transfer and climate finance from the Global North.

189. Identify the correct pair regarding modern global challenges.

(A) Pandemics - Purely domestic health issues
(B) Nuclear Proliferation - Addressed exclusively by local municipalities
(C) Climate Change - Polycentric governance challenge requiring global cooperation
(D) Cyber Terrorism - Easily contained within state borders

190. Consider the following statements about global orders:

1. Unipolarity implies the absence of balancing

(B) Russia leverages its natural gas exports to influence European politics.
(C) Japan utilizes its technological and economic prowess to gain soft power.
(D) China's BRI is primarily aimed at philanthropic development with no strategic calculations.

175. Consider the following statements about the European Union:
1. It exercises normative power by setting global regulatory standards (the "Brussels Effect").
2. It has a fully operational, integrated European Army that has replaced national militaries.
3. It faces internal cohesion challenges due to rising nationalist movements.
4. It is the world's largest single market area.
5. It requires member states to pool their sovereignty in specific policy areas.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3, 4, and 5
(B) 2, 3, 4, and 5
(C) 1, 2, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 5

176. Identify the correct pair regarding elements of world order.
(A) Balance of Power - A system where one state has absolute power
(B) Systemic Anarchy - Absence of a supreme global authority
(C) Collective Security - States acting entirely alone for self-defense
(D) Cosmopolitanism - Extreme nationalism

177. Identify the incorrect pair regarding scholars and their theories.
(A) Joseph Nye - Soft Power
(B) Samuel Huntington - Democratic Peace Theory
(C) Kenneth Waltz - Structural Realism
(D) Alexander Wendt - Constructivism

178. All of the following represent forms of technological power in the contemporary world order EXCEPT:
(A) Control of global sea lanes via traditional dreadnought battleships
(B) Monopoly over semiconductor manufacturing
(C) Dominance in artificial intelligence research
(D) Capability to launch and maintain satellite constellations

179. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of a "Polar" power in the international system?
(A) A state that exclusively focuses on Arctic exploration and environmental protection.
(B) A state that relies entirely on an international organization for its national defense.
(C) A state with capabilities to shape systemic outcomes and defend itself independently.
(D) A state with a population over 1 billion and a large geographic territory.

180. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The proliferation of globalization has weakened the traditional Westphalian concept of state sovereignty.
Reason (R): Globalization creates transnational challenges (like climate change and financial crises) that individual states cannot resolve alone, necessitating polycentric governance.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

181. Assessing the concept of "Globalism," one must recognize that:
(A) It is purely a descriptive term for the exchange of goods and global services.
(B) It is synonymous with aggressive imperialism and formal territorial conquest.
(C) It is an ideology that endows globalization with values such as free markets.
(D) It inherently opposes democratic governance and promotes authoritarian rules.

182. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: "Wolf Warrior" diplomacy refers to an assertive and often confrontational style of communication adopted by Chinese diplomats

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(D) Digital balancing

198. What is a key cause of "Polycentrism" in the contemporary world order?
(A) The absolute centralization of all political power in the UN Secretariat.
(B) The diffusion of economic power and the rise of non-state global entities.
(C) The ideological and military revival of the former Soviet Union states.
(D) The permanent elimination of all formal international and regional treaties.

199. Define "Technological Decoupling."
(A) The theoretical fusion of artificial intelligence and human consciousness.
(B) The global sharing of all patented technologies and intellectual property.
(C) The physical unlinking of undersea internet cables between various continents.
(D) The severing of tech integration between nations due to security concerns.

200. Consider the following statements about the "Democratic Peace Theory":
1. It posits that democracies rarely or never go to war with each other.
2. It claims that democracies are inherently more peaceful and never go to war with non-democracies.
3. Institutional constraints and shared democratic norms are cited as reasons for this peace.
4. It has heavily influenced liberal foreign policy initiatives.
5. Immanuel Kant's "Perpetual Peace" is considered its philosophical foundation.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3, 4, and 5
(B) 1, 2, 3, and 5
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 2, 4, and 5

201. Identify the correct statement regarding "Global Governance" mechanisms.
(A) They possess an independent military force capable of subjugating any member state.
(B) They are entirely devoid of influence from major powers.
(C) They rely on a complex network of formal institutions, treaties, and informal regimes.
(D) They only address economic issues, ignoring security and the environment.

202. Identify the incorrect statement regarding "Multipolarity."
(A) It implies a diffusion of power among several major states.
(B) The Concert of Europe is a classical example of a multipolar system.
(C) Multipolar systems often require complex balancing and shifting alliances.
(D) Neorealists generally argue multipolarity is more stable than bipolarity due to reduced uncertainty.

203. Identify the correct pair regarding state power capabilities.
(A) Nuclear triad - Soft power capability
(B) Official Development Assistance (ODA) - Hard military power capability
(C) Hollywood/Cultural exports - Kinetic power capability
(D) Demographic dividend - Economic/Latent power capability

204. All of the following are examples of how globalization challenges state sovereignty, EXCEPT:
(A) Global financial markets dictate domestic fiscal policies.
(B) States retain the absolute right to define citizenship and border security.
(C) Transnational NGOs mobilize domestic populations against state policies.
(D) International human rights law supercedes domestic legal immunities.

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205. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The World Health Organization (WHO) exemplifies polycentric governance during global crises.
Reason (R): The WHO interacts not only with states but also with private foundations, NGOs, and pharmaceutical companies to coordinate global health responses.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

206. Which of the following best describes the "Brussels Effect"?
(A) The EU's historical military dominance across the African continent.
(B) The severe economic recession caused by the UK's Brexit withdrawal.
(C) The absolute centralization of United Nations power in Brussels, Belgium.
(D) The EU's ability to set global standards adopted by multinational companies.

207. Applying the concept of "Complex Interdependence," an analyst would predict that in a conflict between two highly economically integrated states:
(A) The utility of military force is reduced due to the high costs of severing ties.
(B) They will both immediately and inevitably resort to systemic nuclear war.
(C) All international organizations and regimes will be entirely ignored by both.
(D) Both national economies will immediately collapse before any conflict begins.

208. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Bipolar systems are characterized by rigid alliances and proxy wars.
Statement II: The Cold War era is the most prominent historical example of a strictly multipolar system.
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

209. A state attempts to assert dominance by monopolizing the refinement of rare earth minerals, which are essential for advanced technologies. This strategy leverages:
(A) Soft Power
(B) Geoeconomics / Economic Statecraft
(C) Normative Power
(D) Polycentric diplomacy

210. Match List I with List II.
List I: (IR Scholar)
P. Robert Keohane
Q. John Mearsheimer
R. Alexander Wendt
S. Samuel P. Huntington
List II: (Associated Theory/Concept)
1. Clash of Civilizations
2. Constructivism ("Anarchy is what states make of it")
3. Neoliberal Institutionalism (Complex Interdependence)
4. Offensive Realism
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

211. What is the primary cause of friction in the "Democratization of the World Order"?
(A) The universally agreed definition of democracy by all sovereign states.
(B) The complete and absolute lack of non-state actors in the global system.
(C) The demand by developing states for equitable representation in institutions.
(D) The overabundance of veto powers across the United Nations General Assembly.

212. Define "Strategic Compass" in contemporary IR.
(A) A physical tool used for naval navigation across international waters.
(B) China's strategic mapping and claims in the South China Sea region.
(C) The United States strategy for long-term outer space exploration.
(D) The European Union's plan to strengthen its security and defense policy.

213. Identify the correct statement regarding "Globality".
(A) It describes the process of erecting trade barriers.
(B) It implies a complete lack of global communication.
(C) It is the condition of deep and pervasive interconnectedness.
(D) It is a political party in Europe.

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214. Identify the incorrect statement about "Globalism".
(A) It exists in various forms, such as market globalism and justice globalism.
(B) It endows the concept of globalization with specific norms and values.
(C) Anti-globalization movements often target neoliberal globalism.
(D) It is a neutral, scientific term with no ideological connotations.

215. Consider the following statements about global orders:
1. The transition to polycentrism diminishes the absolute authority of the traditional nation-state.
2. India advocates for a multipolar Asia as a prerequisite for a multipolar world.
3. The US has officially abandoned its desire to maintain global primacy.
4. The EU acts as a singular state with a unified military in all global conflicts.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1 and 2
(B) 2 and 3
(C) 3 and 4
(D) 1 and 4

216. Identify the correct pair regarding globalization perspectives.
(A) Sceptics - Emphasize the enduring power of the nation-state and regionalization
(B) Hyperglobalizers - Believe globalization is a myth
(C) Transformationalists - Believe globalization only affects the economy, not politics
(D) Marxists - Believe globalization is a purely cultural phenomenon

217. Identify the incorrect pair regarding democratization concepts.
(A) Third Wave - Commenced in the 1970s
(B) Democratic Deficit - Lack of accountability in international organizations
(C) Democratic Backsliding - The rapid expansion of democratic rights in a dictatorship
(D) Illiberal Democracy - A system with elections but weak civil liberties

218. All of the following are consequences of the "Information Revolution" on the global order EXCEPT:
(A) Restoring absolute control of information to sovereign governments.
(B) Empowering non-state actors and individuals.
(C) Increasing the speed of global financial transactions.
(D) Creating new domains of conflict, such as cyberspace.

219. Which concept describes the situation where a rising power's expanding interests inevitably conflict with the established power's desire to maintain the status quo?
(A) Democratic Peace Theory
(B) Hegemonic Stability Theory
(C) Complex Interdependence
(D) Power Transition Theory

220. Arrange the following developments in global institutional order chronologically:
1. League of Nations established
2. Concert of Europe established
3. United Nations established
4. World Trade Organization (WTO) established

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) 2, 1, 3, 4
(B) 1, 2, 3, 4
(C) 2, 3, 1, 4
(D) 3, 2, 4, 1

221. Evaluate a state's adoption of "Wolf Warrior" diplomacy. This indicates a shift toward:
(A) A pacifist and subservient foreign policy toward all international powers.
(B) Isolationism and total withdrawal from all global institutions and regimes.
(C) An assertive, nationalistic approach to defending state interests abroad.
(D) Surrendering national sovereignty to the authority of international tribunals.

222. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: "Unipolarity" requires the hegemon to have overwhelming dominance in military, economic, and structural power.
Statement II: The post-Cold War world

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238. Identify the correct statement regarding "Polycentrism".
(A) It relies entirely on the dominance of two super-states and their regional blocs.
(B) It advocates for the creation of a single, centralized and sovereign world government.
(C) It is an economic theory focused solely on traditional agricultural production.
(D) It recognizes that global governance occurs through multiple overlapping centers.

239. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the major powers.
(A) India formally alliances with Russia against Western powers.
(B) The US possesses the world's most capable blue-water navy.
(C) China's economic rise has positioned it as a systemic rival to the US.
(D) Japan is severely constrained by demographic challenges.

240. Consider the following statements about global order transitions:
1. The transition from bipolarity to unipolarity occurred rapidly with the collapse of the Soviet Union.
2. The current transition toward multipolarity is driven by the economic rise of non-Western powers.
3. Polycentrism implies a more complex governance landscape than traditional multipolarity.
4. Transitions in world order historically occur without any geopolitical friction or conflict.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3
(B) 2, 3, and 4
(C) 1, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 2, and 4

241. Identify the correct pair regarding technology terms.
(A) Splinternet - A globally unified digital network
(B) AI Arms Race - Competition to develop autonomous weapon systems
(C) Cyber Sovereignty - Unrestricted flow of global data
(D) Net Neutrality - State control over internet content

242. Identify the incorrect pair regarding democratization concepts.
(A) Arab Spring - Universal establishment of stable democracies in the Middle East
(B) Third Wave - Commenced in the 1970s
(C) Democratic Deficit - Lack of accountability in international organizations
(D) End of History - Hypothesis that liberal democracy is the final ideological stage

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243. All of the following highlight the impact of Globalization on the state, EXCEPT:
(A) Increased vulnerability to global financial crises.
(B) Necessity to engage in multilateral governance to solve transnational issues.
(C) Enhanced capacity to completely isolate domestic economies without consequence.
(D) Dilution of absolute Westphalian sovereignty.

244. Which concept describes the strategy of using economic interdependence, such as critical supply chains, as a weapon to coerce other states?
(A) Democratic Peace
(B) Complex Hegemony
(C) Normative Liberalism
(D) Weaponized Interdependence

245. Evaluating the concept of a "Unipolar Moment," one must recognize that:
(A) It describes a permanent structural feature of the international order in the 21st century.
(B) It refers to the historical era of British imperial and maritime dominance.
(C) It highlights the temporary nature of US dominance immediately post-Cold War.
(D) It implies a complete and total lack of any global governance or international rules.

246. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Neoclassical realism incorporates both domestic political factors and systemic variables to explain state behavior.
Statement II: Classical realism focuses entirely on the structure of the international system, ignoring human nature.
Choose the correct answer from the options

Reason (R): Rising populist movements and the consolidation of power by executive leaders have weakened democratic institutions in several states.

In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

231. Which of the following is the most appropriate definition of "Asymmetric Warfare"?

(A) A conflict where two states use identical military strategies and technologies.
(B) A conventional and direct war between two nuclear-armed superpowers.
(C) A diplomatic dispute resolved through the International Court of Justice.
(D) A conflict where weaker parties use unconventional tactics against stronger ones.

232. To analyze the "Democratization of the World Order," a scholar must assess:

(A) The extent to which international institutions reflect equitable representation.
(B) The total number of competitive domestic elections held every year worldwide.
(C) The military budgets and hardware readiness of authoritarian or illiberal regimes.
(D) The cultural homogeneity and social cohesion found within the European Union.

233. Given below are two statements.

Statement I: "Space militarization" refers to the placement and development of weapons in outer space.

Statement II: The 1967 Outer Space Treaty completely prohibits the use of satellites for military reconnaissance and communication.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

234. A government restricts exports of advanced semiconductor manufacturing equipment to a rival nation, citing national security concerns. This policy is an example of:

(A) Techno-nationalism and Export Controls
(B) Free Trade Liberalism
(C) Digital Democratization
(D) Polycentric interdependence

235. Match List I with List II.

List I: (Form of Globalization)

P. Economic
Q. Political
R. Cultural
S. Technological

List II: (Example Indicator)

1. The spread of the English language and fast-food chains
2. The expansion of global fiber-optic networks
3. Proliferation of free trade agreements (FTAs)
4. Growth in the number of Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

236. What is a key cause of the "Digital Divide" affecting global order?

(A) The achievement of universal access to affordable and reliable high-speed broadband.
(B) Disparities in economic development and infrastructure investment between nations.
(C) The over-regulation of technology and digital systems by the United Nations.
(D) A global and binding consensus to abandon all forms of digital and modern technology.

237. Define "Normative Power."

(A) The ability to physically coerce another state via the use of military hardware.
(B) The absolute control over a specific and well-defined geographic land territory.
(C) The ability to define what passes for "normal" in world politics via values.
(D) The technical capacity to launch and maintain sophisticated cyber-attacks.

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behavior by secondary states.
2. Bipolarity is characterized by two distinct spheres of influence.
3. Multipolarity historically features greater uncertainty in alliance formations than bipolarity.
4. Polycentrism completely replaces states with multinational corporations.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3
(B) 2, 3, and 4
(C) 1, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 2, and 4

191. Identify the incorrect pair regarding theories of the state in IR.
(A) Constructivism - State behavior defined by historical materialism and class struggle
(B) Realism - State as a unitary, rational actor
(C) Liberalism - State as an arena for competing domestic interests
(D) Institutionalism - State behavior constrained by international regimes

192. All of the following are examples of how democratization affects world order EXCEPT:
(A) Promoting peaceful conflict resolution among democracies.
(B) Guaranteeing the immediate economic supremacy of the democratizing state.
(C) Creating predictable and transparent foreign policy processes.
(D) Aligning state values with international human rights norms.

193. Which of the following is the most appropriate characterization of the current transitional world order?
(A) Strict unipolarity dominated solely by the European Union and its members.
(B) A shift towards asymmetric multipolarity where the US remains the lead actor.
(C) Perfect bipolarity and equilibrium between the nations of India and Japan.
(D) Complete systemic anarchy with no effective international rules or institutions.

194. Evaluating the role of "Science and Technology" in shaping global order requires understanding that:
(A) Technological superiority historically correlates with global geopolitical dominance.
(B) Technology only impacts domestic economies, not foreign policy.
(C) International relations theories ignore technological advancements.
(D) All technologies inherently promote peace.

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195. Consider the following statements regarding the role of Science and Technology in global order:
1. Advanced semiconductor chips are critical chokepoints in modern geopolitical competition.
2. The weaponization of artificial intelligence presents new challenges for strategic stability.
3. Cyber capabilities level the playing field, giving asymmetric advantages to smaller states.
4. International law has fully adapted and resolved all legal ambiguities surrounding cyber warfare.
5. Space exploration is increasingly driven by commercial entities, complicating state-centric space governance.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 5
(B) 1, 3, 4, and 5
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 2, 4, and 5

196. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: "Globality" refers to the ideological promotion of free markets.
Statement II: "Globalism" refers to the social condition of being globally interconnected.
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

197. A major cyber-attack cripples a nation's energy grid, but the attacker's identity is obscured through multiple server relays. This scenario demonstrates the primary challenge of what in cyber warfare?
(A) Kinetic equivalence
(B) Cyber deterrence
(C) The Attribution Problem

given below:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

247. A coalition of developing nations refuses to adopt restrictive global intellectual property laws, arguing these laws hinder their access to life-saving medicines and technologies. This scenario reflects:
(A) A desire to establish a unipolar hegemony.
(B) The success of hyperglobalization.
(C) Complete state autarky.
(D) A demand for the democratization of global order and rules.

248. What is the primary cause of a political consequence of "Cyber Balkanization" (or Splinternet)?
(A) The creation of distinct, politically defined digital spheres hindering global trade.
(B) Enhanced global cyber security and the achievement of universal data protection.
(C) The immediate and permanent end of state-sponsored cyber espionage and hacking.
(D) The unification of all state governments into a single global administrative body.

249. Define the concept of a "Revisionist Power" in the context of changing world orders.
(A) A state perfectly satisfied with the current distribution of power and institutional rules.
(B) A state that focuses purely on domestic historical revisionism and cultural changes.
(C) A state seeking to change the international order and norms to align with its interests.
(D) A non-state actor seeking to dismantle the internet and all global communication systems.

250. Consider the following statements about the contemporary world order:
1. The global order is increasingly characterized by polycentrism, where power is diffuse.
2. The "Thucydides Trap" describes the inherent stability of a unipolar system.
3. Emerging technologies like AI and quantum computing are becoming central arenas of geopolitical competition.
4. Democratic backsliding in several states challenges the liberal international order.
5. Transnational challenges like climate change require cooperative polycentric governance despite geopolitical rivalries.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3, 4, and 5
(B) 2, 3, 4, and 5
(C) 1, 2, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 5

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In contemporary international relations, the transition from a system dominated by a single hegemon to one characterised by multiple centres of power has fundamentally altered the structural dynamics of global governance. A classic scenario involves a unipolar system where a solitary state dictates global norms, manages alliances, and enforces order through disproportionate military and economic capabilities. However, recent shifts indicate a transition toward multipolarity, wherein several states possess comparable capabilities, necessitating complex coalition-building and strategic balancing. Analysts observing this systemic transformation note that a unipolar order often struggles to sustain its dominance against the collective rise of emerging powers. As multipolarity takes root, the changing patterns of world order reveal increased diplomatic friction and the fragmentation of global institutional authority. States must now navigate an environment where power is no longer concentrated in one capital but dispersed across various regional hubs. Consequently, the stability once provided by unipolarity gives way to the competitive yet interdependent framework of a multipolar system. This structural shift compells both the former hegemon and rising powers to recalibrate their foreign policies, focusing on strategic autonomy and flexible alignments to secure their interests within the shifting world order.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

251. According to the passage, what fundamentally characterises a unipolar system?
(A) Multiple states engaging in complex coalition-building and strategic balancing

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297. According to the passage, how is the structural power of states increasingly being measured?
(A) By their ability to control the flow of digital information
(B) By their historical spheres of military and territorial influence
(C) By the geographical size of their sovereign landmass
(D) By their refusal to engage in transnational market integration

298. How does state utilization of technological infrastructure for mass surveillance affect democratic norms?
(A) It inherently promotes and fosters them globally
(B) It directly challenges and suppresses them
(C) It has no measurable impact on their function
(D) It guarantees transparent information sharing

299. How is the global system currently divided, apart from traditional geographic or economic boundaries?
(A) By adherence exclusively to bipolar military alliances
(B) By capacities to foster or suppress democracy
(C) By historical disputes over pre-industrial territories
(D) By uniform agreement on the rejection of artificial intelligence technologies

300. What is the ultimate outcome of major powers competing to establish regulatory standards for emerging technologies?
(A) They shape the normative foundation of future global governance
(B) They eradicate all forms of digital information flow permanently
(C) They successfully eliminate the need for global democratic movements
(D) They immediately resolve all issues of domestic political unrest

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expansion
(B) An issue-based rather than ideological setting
(C) A polycentric and cooperative framework
(D) A zero-sum environment of relative gains

258. Which of the following best describes strategic alliances in a polycentric world order?
(A) They are issue-based without rigid formations
(B) They are rigid, permanent, and strictly ideological in their nature
(C) They are exclusively dictated by two superpowers
(D) They are entirely non-existent in modern diplomacy

259. How do nations act within a polycentric structure as illustrated in the scenario?
(A) As compliant subordinates to a singular global hegemon and its interests
(B) As strict adherents to bipolar alliance commitments
(C) As autonomous nodes leveraging advantages
(D) As passive participants avoiding diplomatic engagement

260. Why does polycentrism complicate global governance compared to bipolarity?
(A) It requires negotiation among diverse actors
(B) It simplifies threat perception through very clear and fixed adversarial divisions
(C) It enforces a zero-sum environment where no state can negotiate freely
(D) It eliminates the need for any regional alliances or economic treaties

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In evaluating the role of major powers within the contemporary global system, the strategic interplay between the US and China serves as a critical focal point for understanding shifting geopolitical alignments. The US has historically acted as the primary architect of international institutions, projecting its economic and military influence to maintain systemic stability and uphold established global norms. Conversely, China's rapid economic expansion and subsequent strategic assertiveness represent a profound structural challenge to this established framework. As China translates its economic wealth into enhanced military capabilities and regional influence, it actively seeks to reshape the rules of global governance to better reflect its interests. This dynamic creates a scenario of systemic competition, where the US attempts to preserve its hegemonic status while China maneuvers to establish a more equitable distribution of global authority. The role of these major powers is not merely confined to bilateral competition; it profoundly impacts the broader international order by forcing other nations to navigate an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape. Consequently, the continuous strategic friction between the US and China defines the parameters of modern diplomatic engagement and influences the overarching trajectory of global governance structures.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

261. According to the passage, how has the US historically positioned itself within the global system?
(A) As an isolated state avoiding international institutional involvement
(B) As a rapidly expanding economic power challenging structural norms
(C) As a regional hub solely focused on equitable wealth distribution
(D) As the primary architect projecting influence to maintain stability

262. What represents a profound structural challenge to the established global framework in this scenario?
(A) The collapse of bilateral trade agreements across all regions
(B) China's rapid economic expansion and strategic assertiveness
(C) The US abandoning its economic and military influence entirely
(D) The fragmentation of global power into isolated regional hubs

263. What does China actively seek to do as it translates economic wealth into military capabilities?
(A) Adopt all established norms dictated entirely by the original US architects
(B) Dismantle all international institutions to enforce domestic policies

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(C) Reshape global rules to reflect its interests
(D) Surrender its regional influence to maintain the unipolar system

264. How does the systemic competition between the US and China affect other nations?
(A) It provides them with absolute strategic autonomy and guaranteed security
(B) It eliminates the need for their participation in global governance
(C) It immediately resolves all their regional and bilateral diplomatic friction
(D) It forces them to navigate an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape

265. What defines the parameters of modern diplomatic engagement according to the text?
(A) The continuous strategic friction between the US and China
(B) The unanimous agreement on governance structures by all states
(C) The successful preservation of US hegemony without opposition
(D) The voluntary withdrawal of major powers from the global arena

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The contemporary world order is significantly shaped by the contrasting geopolitical strategies of Russia and the European Union (EU) as major powers. Russia often employs a strategy focused on traditional security paradigms, leveraging its military capabilities, energy resources, and historical spheres of influence to assert its status on the global stage. This approach prioritises territorial integrity and the projection of hard power to counteract perceived encroachments by Western alliances. On the other hand, the EU functions as a major power primarily through the projection of normative and economic influence, often characterised as civilian or soft power. The EU seeks to shape the global order by promoting multilateralism, regulatory standards, and economic integration. In scenarios where these two powers interact, their fundamentally divergent methodologies frequently lead to strategic friction. While Russia utilises geopolitical leverage to secure its immediate borders and challenge existing security architectures, the EU relies on institutional expansion and economic partnerships to stabilise its periphery. The ongoing interaction between Russia's hard-power assertiveness and the EU's institution-building approach illustrates the complex roles these major powers play in either challenging or reinforcing the stability of the contemporary international system.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

266. Which strategy does Russia primarily employ as a major power according to the source?
(A) Promoting multilateralism and broad regulatory standards globally
(B) Leveraging military capabilities within traditional security paradigms
(C) Abandoning historical spheres of influence for soft power projection
(D) Prioritising institutional expansion exclusively over territorial integrity

267. How does the European Union (EU) primarily function as a major power in the global order?
(A) By focusing aggressively on military expansion and hard power
(B) By projecting normative and economic influence as soft power
(C) By dismantling multilateral institutions and economic partnerships
(D) By leveraging energy resources to counteract structural encroachments

268. What is a frequent outcome when the contrasting methodologies of Russia and the EU interact?
(A) Strategic friction stemming from fundamentally divergent approaches
(B) Immediate assimilation of their respective governance structures
(C) Complete disengagement from the global international system
(D) Unanimous agreement on territorial integrity and economic integration

269. How does the EU attempt to stabilise its periphery according to the scenario?
(A) Through the projection of traditional and rigid military security architectures
(B) Through leveraging energy resources to assert hard power status
(C) Through reliance on institutional expansion
(D) Through challenging multilateralism and

defying regulatory standards

270. What do the contrasting strategies of Russia and the EU illustrate about the international system?
(A) The absolute obsolescence of major power influence in modern diplomacy
(B) The uniform methodology all states use to navigate global governance
(C) The successful elimination of structural instability across all regions
(D) The complex roles powers play in challenging or reinforcing stability

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In the evolving architecture of the world order, the strategic roles of India and Japan have gained considerable prominence as both nations seek to influence regional and global power distributions. Japan, traditionally relying on its substantial economic prowess and technological advancements, has begun to gradually recalibrate its security posture to assume a more proactive role in maintaining regional stability. By strengthening its maritime capabilities and diplomatic outreach, Japan aims to counterbalance the rapid structural changes in its immediate strategic environment. Simultaneously, India approaches the global order as a rapidly growing economic and demographic power striving for strategic autonomy. India leverages its pivotal geographic position and expanding market to forge multi-directional partnerships, consciously avoiding rigid alliance structures. When examining the roles of these major powers, it becomes evident that both India and Japan are crucial to the maintenance of a multipolar equilibrium. Their collaborative diplomatic initiatives and infrastructure investments serve as mechanisms to ensure that the changing patterns of world order do not result in the dominance of a single regional hegemon. Together, India and Japan exemplify how emerging major powers utilize strategic alignment to shape global governance.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

271. How is Japan recalibrating its traditional posture to maintain regional stability?
(A) By abandoning technological advancements for total military isolation
(B) By entirely dismantling its existing economic and trade structures
(C) By strengthening its maritime capabilities and diplomatic outreach
(D) By adopting rigid ideological alliances exclusively with distant powers

272. What structural approach does India consciously avoid in its pursuit of strategic autonomy?
(A) Expanding its domestic economic market
(B) Participating in rigid alliance structures
(C) Forging multi-directional partnerships
(D) Leveraging its pivotal geographic position

273. According to the passage, what is a primary goal of India's multi-directional partnerships?
(A) To submit to the dominance of a singular global hegemon
(B) To isolate its expanding domestic market from the international world order
(C) To act exclusively as a traditional military hard power
(D) To strive for strategic autonomy

274. What mechanism do India and Japan use to prevent the dominance of a single regional hegemon?
(A) Collaborative initiatives and investments
(B) Complete withdrawal from all regional and international governance structures
(C) Unilateral disarmament and rejection of maritime capabilities
(D) Submitting fully to the structural changes in their environments

275. What do India and Japan exemplify in the context of the evolving world order?
(A) The decline of regional actors in a strictly bipolar system
(B) The inability of demographic powers to influence regional power distributions
(C) How powers use alignment to shape governance
(D) The irrelevance of economic prowess in an era of unipolarity

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Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Theoretical discussions surrounding contemporary world order necessitate a careful distinction among the concepts of globality,

efforts
(B) A solitary state dictating norms and enforcing order
(C) The fragmentation of global institutional authority across various capitals
(D) An interdependent framework focused on strategic autonomy and flexibility

252. What is identified as a direct consequence of the transition toward multipolarity?
(A) Increased diplomatic friction and fragmentation of institutional authority
(B) The immediate restoration of stability through a single hegemonic capital
(C) The total elimination of disproportionate military and economic capabilities
(D) The voluntary surrender of dominance by the solitary ruling state

253. How must states navigate the changing patterns of world order under multipolarity?
(A) By surrendering their national interests to a solitary hegemon
(B) By centralising all global power within a single regional hub or capital city
(C) By focusing on strategic autonomy and flexible alignments
(D) By dissolving all existing military alliances and economic treaties

254. In a multipolar system, how does the distribution of global power differ from unipolarity?
(A) Power is concentrated tightly in one dominant capital city
(B) Power is restricted exclusively to international institutions
(C) Power is uniformly eliminated across all developing nations
(D) Power is dispersed across various regional hubs and states

255. What dynamic replaces the stability once provided by unipolarity?
(A) A chaotic environment devoid of any diplomatic engagement
(B) A rigidly permanent alliance managed by a single nation
(C) A competitive yet interdependent framework
(D) A uniform economic system governed by emerging powers and regional authorities

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The historical analysis of world order frequently contrasts the rigid structures of bipolarity with the fluid dynamics of polycentrism. Under a bipolar framework, global interactions are primarily structured around two dominant superpowers, compelling other nations to align with one of the two competing blocs. This creates a zero-sum environment where any strategic gain by one pole is perceived as a corresponding loss by the other. In contrast, the contemporary shift toward polycentrism introduces a paradigm where multiple independent centres of power operate concurrently without rigid bloc formations. In a polycentric world order, strategic alliances are often issue-based rather than ideological, allowing states to pursue varied diplomatic engagements across different regions. This case scenario illustrates how nations operating within a polycentric structure leverage their geographic and economic advantages to act as autonomous nodes of influence. Unlike bipolarity, which demands strict adherence to alliance commitments, polycentrism fosters an environment of shifting coalitions and multifaceted diplomacy. Scholars argue that while bipolarity simplifies threat perception through clear adversarial divisions, polycentrism complicates global governance by distributing authority and requiring continuous negotiation among a diverse array of influential actors shaping the changing patterns of world order.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

256. How does a bipolar framework primarily structure global interactions according to the source?
(A) By distributing authority equally among diverse regional actors
(B) By compelling nations to align with one of two competing superpowers
(C) By fostering shifting coalitions and multifaceted diplomatic engagements
(D) By allowing states to act strictly as autonomous nodes of influence

257. What type of strategic environment does bipolarity create regarding gains and losses?
(A) An environment of mutual economic

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democratisation into the world order theoretically fosters a more cooperative international environment, based on the premise that states sharing representative governance models are less likely to engage in armed conflict with one another. However, the transitional phases of democratisation can also introduce instability, leading to domestic unrest that reverberates across global networks. Ultimately, the continuous process of democratisation shapes the world order by actively redefining state identities, altering alliance formations, and establishing new normative standards for legitimate international conduct and governance.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

281. According to the passage, what does democratisation fundamentally involve at a systemic level?
(A) A shift toward popular representation
(B) The consolidation of authoritarian strategic calculus and state power
(C) The abandonment of all multilateral diplomacy and institutions
(D) A strict reliance on rigid military alliance formations

282. How do newly democratised states typically alter international behavioral patterns?
(A) By rejecting participation in established international institutions
(B) By favoring multilateral diplomacy and economic interdependence
(C) By isolating their domestic markets from global economic networks
(D) By initiating armed conflicts with other representative governance models

283. How might established authoritarian regimes react to a regional wave of democratisation?
(A) By immediately transitioning to popular representation models
(B) By adjusting their strategic calculus
(C) By ignoring the ideological threat to focus strictly on domestic unrest
(D) By dissolving their own governments to embrace the new norms

284. What premise supports the theory that democratisation fosters a more cooperative international environment?
(A) Representative states are less likely to fight
(B) Democratic states exclusively use authoritarian strategies abroad
(C) Domestic unrest in transitioning states stabilizes the regional balance of power
(D) Global networks automatically absorb all ideological threats seamlessly

285. What negative impact can the transitional phases of democratisation introduce to the global order?
(A) The immediate elimination of all new normative standards
(B) Complete isolation from all forms of international conduct
(C) Instability and reverberating domestic unrest
(D) The forced centralization of economic interdependence frameworks and systems

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The intersection of science, technology, and global order has emerged as a fundamental determinant in the distribution of international power and strategic advantage. In the contemporary system, technological innovation is no longer merely a tool for economic development; it serves as a critical component of national security and geopolitical influence. States that achieve dominance in advanced scientific research, cyber capabilities, and artificial intelligence are uniquely positioned to dictate the normative and regulatory frameworks of the global order. A relevant scenario involves a nation leveraging its monopolistic control over critical technological infrastructure to exert coercive diplomatic pressure on reliant states. This capacity to weaponise technological dependence significantly alters the traditional calculations of state power, shifting the focus from purely military or economic metrics to technological supremacy. Furthermore, the rapid proliferation of advanced science and technology frequently outpaces the capacity of existing international institutions to regulate them, creating governance vacuums that powerful states attempt to exploit. Consequently, control over technological advancement acts as a primary catalyst in reshaping the global order,

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compelling nations to engage in intense scientific competition to secure their structural position within the changing international hierarchy.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

286. In the contemporary system, technological innovation is highlighted as a critical component of which domains?
(A) Exclusively domestic agriculture and local commerce
(B) Historical preservation and cultural heritage
(C) purely academic theoretical research
(D) National security and geopolitical influence

287. What advantage do states dominating advanced scientific research and artificial intelligence hold?
(A) They become completely immune to all forms of domestic unrest
(B) They are forced to abandon their military and economic metrics
(C) They are positioned to dictate normative and regulatory frameworks
(D) They automatically forfeit their strategic position in the global order

288. According to the scenario, how might a nation weaponise technological dependence?
(A) By freely sharing all cyber capabilities with reliant states
(B) By using monopolistic control to exert coercive diplomatic pressure
(C) By ignoring governance vacuums created by international institutions
(D) By reverting to purely traditional military forms of combat

289. How does technological supremacy alter traditional calculations of state power?
(A) It shifts the focus exclusively to maintaining large standing armies
(B) It renders all forms of national security obsolete
(C) It eliminates the need for any strategic competition among nations
(D) It shifts the focus from purely military or economic metrics

290. What happens when the rapid proliferation of technology outpaces international institutional regulation?
(A) It creates exploitable governance vacuums
(B) Institutions automatically upgrade their internal frameworks
(C) Powerful states cease their scientific competition immediately
(D) All nations agree to halt technological advancement projects temporarily

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The complex dynamic between polycentrism and the ongoing process of globalisation has introduced new challenges to the structural integrity of the contemporary world order. As globalisation accelerates the integration of transnational markets and communication networks, it inherently disperses economic resources across multiple regions. This dispersal acts as a catalyst for polycentrism, where numerous independent nodes of authority emerge, diminishing the central control previously exercised by traditional core powers. In this scenario, multinational corporations, non-governmental organisations, and regional blocs leverage the interconnectedness of globalisation to operate as autonomous centers of influence. While globalisation facilitates the rapid exchange of capital and information, a polycentric structure ensures that the benefits and regulatory control of these exchanges are hotly contested among diverse actors rather than managed by a single hegemon. The intersection of these phenomena means that global policy can no longer be dictated unilaterally; instead, it requires continuous negotiation among multiple, fluid power centers. Analysts note that while globalisation binds the international system together materially, polycentrism politically fragments it, creating a world order characterized by intense economic integration paradoxically coupled with increasingly decentralized and competitive political authority.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

291. According to the passage, what effect does globalisation have on economic resources?
(A) It consolidates them entirely within traditional core powers

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(B) It isolates them strictly within sovereign territorial borders
(C) It inherently disperses them across multiple regions
(D) It eliminates them from transnational market integration

292. How does the dispersal of resources act as a catalyst for polycentrism?
(A) By allowing numerous independent nodes of authority to emerge
(B) By enhancing the unilateral policy dictation of a single hegemon
(C) By restricting regulatory control strictly to governmental entities
(D) By halting the rapid exchange of capital and information

293. In the provided scenario, who leverages interconnectedness to operate as autonomous centers of influence?
(A) Only solitary states dictating rigid global norms
(B) Exclusively the military alliances belonging to traditional core powers
(C) Only international institutions lacking economic resources
(D) Multinational corporations and regional blocs

294. What is a consequence of polycentrism regarding the formulation of global policy?
(A) It must be unilaterally decided by the strongest and most economic state
(B) It requires negotiation among fluid centers
(C) It can no longer be formed and is entirely abandoned
(D) It is uniformly managed by a centralized global hegemon

295. How do analysts characterize the paradoxical world order created by globalisation and polycentrism?
(A) Political cohesion coupled with intense economic isolationism
(B) Unilateral dictation coupled with isolated and rigid communication networks
(C) Integration coupled with decentralized authority
(D) Singular hegemon dominance coupled with total resource centralization

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Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The contemporary world order is undergoing a profound transformation driven by the simultaneous advancement of science and technology and the shifting currents of global democratisation. The deployment of sophisticated digital technologies has fundamentally altered how democratic processes function, both domestically and internationally. In a scenario evaluating this intersection, advanced communication networks act as dual-use mechanisms; they can empower grassroots democratic movements by facilitating rapid mobilization and transparent information sharing, thereby promoting democratisation. Conversely, the exact same technological infrastructure can be utilized by states to centralize control, conduct mass surveillance, and manipulate public discourse, directly challenging democratic norms. This technological ambivalence significantly impacts the global order, as the structural power of states is increasingly measured by their ability to control the flow of digital information. The global system is thus divided not only by traditional geographic or economic boundaries but by technological capacities to either foster or suppress democratisation. As major powers compete to establish the regulatory standards for emerging technologies, they simultaneously shape the normative foundation of the world order, determining whether future global governance will lean toward transparent democratic cooperation or technologically enabled authoritarianism.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

296. How do advanced communication networks act as dual-use mechanisms regarding democratisation?
(A) They can purely enforce traditional geographic borders or economic boundaries of states
(B) They can exclusively serve the military needs of major hegemonic powers
(C) They can dismantle global governance or permanently halt technological progress
(D) They empower movements or centralize control

globalism, and globalisation. Globalisation is fundamentally understood as a dynamic, ongoing process that accelerates the interconnectedness of economies, societies, and political systems across territorial borders. It is the active mechanism driving the integration of global markets and communication networks. In contrast, globality refers to the ultimate social condition or state of being resulting from this process, where geographic boundaries become increasingly irrelevant to human interaction and awareness. It represents a reality where events in one region instantaneously impact others. Meanwhile, globalism denotes an ideological framework or policy paradigm that actively advocates for and promotes a globally interconnected system, often prioritizing transnational networks over strictly sovereign state interests. A scenario demonstrating these distinctions involves a state implementing globalism through policies that dismantle trade barriers, thereby facilitating the process of globalisation, which eventually culminates in a state of globality where domestic and international economic realities are indistinguishable. Understanding the nuanced differences among the ongoing process, the resulting condition, and the driving ideology is essential for analyzing how interconnectedness reshapes the structural foundations of the contemporary world order.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

276. How is globalisation fundamentally defined in the provided source?
(A) As an ongoing process accelerating interconnectedness across borders
(B) As an ideological framework prioritizing transnational networks
(C) As the ultimate social condition resulting from global integration
(D) As a static policy paradigm strictly protecting sovereign state interests

277. What term is used to describe the ultimate social condition where geographic boundaries become increasingly irrelevant?
(A) Multipolarity
(B) Globalisation
(C) Globalism
(D) Globality

278. How does globalism differ from globalisation and globality according to the text?
(A) It is the active mechanism driving the integration of global markets
(B) It is an ideological framework that promotes a globally interconnected system
(C) It is the reality where events in one region instantaneously impact others
(D) It is a social state where domestic and international economies merge

279. In the provided scenario, what action directly represents a state implementing globalism?
(A) Strengthening all territorial borders and fixed geographic boundaries
(B) Rejecting all forms of communication network integration
(C) Dismantling barriers to facilitate integration
(D) Prioritizing strictly sovereign state interests above all else

280. What is the resulting reality when a state achieves the condition of globality?
(A) The state entirely abandons the ongoing process of global market integration
(B) The state reverts to implementing rigid national trade barriers
(C) Ideological frameworks are abolished from the political system
(D) Realities become indistinguishable

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The phenomenon of democratisation extends beyond the internal political transitions of individual states to profoundly influence the structural dynamics of the world order. Democratisation involves the systemic shift of governance structures toward popular representation, institutional transparency, and the rule of law. When analyzing the global order, the spread of democratic norms often alters international behavioral patterns, as newly democratised states tend to favor multilateral diplomacy, economic interdependence, and participation in international institutions. A critical scenario emerges when a wave of regional democratisation shifts the balance of power, compelling established authoritarian regimes to adjust their strategic calculus to counteract the perceived ideological threat. The integration of

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ANSWERS

1. (B) A system featuring multiple, interacting centers of power across state and non-state actors.
Polycentrism represents a sophisticated framework within international relations where authority is not concentrated in a single state or pair of superpowers. Instead, it involves multiple, interacting centers of power that include sovereign states alongside influential non-state actors. This diffuse system reflects the complex realities of modern global governance, where various entities contribute to shaping international norms and policies.

2. (A) Charles Krauthammer
Charles Krauthammer is widely credited with introducing the concept of the unipolar moment in the early 1990s. He argued that the immediate post-Cold War era was defined by the singular dominance of the United States. This perspective highlighted the absence of any peer competitors capable of challenging American military, economic, and ideological supremacy in the global arena.

3. (C) It describes a system where the majority of global economic and military power is held by two states.
Bipolarity describes a specific structural distribution of power within the international system where two dominant states possess the vast majority of global military and economic capabilities. Historically, this arrangement was most visible during the Cold War, characterized by the intense competition between the United States and the Soviet Union, leading to the formation of rigid and opposing alliance blocs.

4. (D) Classical realists argue that multipolarity is the most stable international system.
While various international relations theorists analyze multipolarity, classical realists often view this system as inherently less stable than bipolarity due to its higher level of uncertainty. Multipolar systems feature several major powers of roughly equal strength, leading to fluid alliances and complex balancing acts. This dynamic can increase the risk of miscalculations and systemic conflicts compared to simpler power distributions.

5. (B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
Unipolar systems are frequently discussed in theory regarding their durability and the likelihood of balancing coalitions. While some argue that secondary powers might fail to form effective coalitions against a hegemon due to economic dependencies, this does not necessarily prove that the system is permanent. Theoretical debates continue to explore whether unipolarity is a temporary moment or a lasting structure.

6. (B) Unipolarity - Immediate post-Cold War era
The immediate period following the collapse of the Soviet Union is widely recognized as a unipolar era, dominated by the United States. During this time, no other state possessed the comprehensive capabilities required to act as a global peer competitor. This specific historical context provides the primary reference point for understanding unipolarity and its subsequent transition toward more diffuse orders.

7. (D) Suez Crisis (1956) - Consolidation of polycentrism
The Suez Crisis of 1956 is historically associated with the decline of traditional European imperial powers, specifically Britain and France, and the consolidation of a bipolar world order led by the United States and the Soviet Union. It does not represent the consolidation of polycentrism, which is a much later development involving a wider variety of state and non-state actors.

8. (A) Strict ideological bloc discipline
Multipolar systems are defined by the presence of three or more major powers and characterized by fluid, shifting alliances rather than rigid bloc discipline. Unlike the bipolar competition of the Cold War, which often demanded strict ideological alignment, multipolarity allows states to pursue balance of power politics through more flexible partnerships. This flexibility is a hallmark of systems with multiple power centers.

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9. (C) The international system is most stable when there is a single dominant state.
Hegemonic stability theory posits that the international system achieves its highest level of stability and openness when a single dominant state, or hegemon, is present. This hegemon provides essential global public goods, such as a secure maritime environment and a stable financial system, which facilitate international trade and cooperation. The absence of such a leader often leads to systemic instability.

10. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Different international orders are defined by specific power distributions and relationship dynamics. Unipolarity involves power concentration in one state, while bipolarity is marked by rigid alliance blocs around two superpowers. Multipolarity features fluid alliances among several major powers. Polycentrism represents the most diffuse form, where power is shared among a wide variety of both state and non-state entities globally.

11. (D) The distribution of material capabilities and economic output among major sovereign states.
Analyzing the transition between systemic structures requires a primary focus on the distribution of material capabilities and economic output among major sovereign states. These indicators provide the most objective measure of power shifts within the international system. While cultural influence and non-state actors are relevant, the core structural change from unipolarity to multipolarity is driven by the relative growth of states.

12. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
Neorealist theory, particularly as developed by Kenneth Waltz, suggests that bipolar systems are actually more stable than multipolar ones. This stability arises because the two superpowers can focus their attention almost exclusively on each other, reducing the likelihood of miscalculation. In contrast, multipolar systems involve complex, shifting alliances that create higher levels of uncertainty and a greater risk of conflict.

13. (C) Balancing
Balancing occurs when a state forms a strategic alliance with another power to counteract a perceived threat or to prevent the dominance of a rising rival. In this scenario, the small nation prioritizes its survival and security needs over ideological preferences by aligning with a major power. This behavior is a fundamental mechanism used by states to maintain regional equilibrium.

14. (D) It highlights governance occurring through a complex web of overlapping authorities.
In the context of modern global governance, polycentrism highlights a reality where authority is distributed across a complex and often overlapping web of institutions. This includes sovereign states, international organizations, regional bodies, and even private entities. These various centers of power interact and share the responsibility for managing global issues, reflecting a move away from centralized or strictly hierarchical structures.

15. (A) 1, 2, and 4
Unipolarity is defined by the hegemon's lack of peer competitors, while multipolar systems historically allow for more flexible alliance structures than those seen in bipolar systems. During the Cold War, the bipolar order was famously characterized by significant proxy conflicts across the globe. However, polycentrism involves both state and non-state actors, meaning it does not rely solely on military capabilities.

16. (B) It causes a diffusion of authority, thereby diluting traditional state sovereignty.
Polycentrism causes a significant diffusion of authority by involving a wide range of state and non-state actors in global governance processes. This shift tends to dilute the traditional Westphalian concept of state sovereignty, as national governments must increasingly share decision-making power with international organizations, regional bodies, and private entities. This environment creates a more complex landscape for traditional state authority.

17. (B) Strategic Autonomy
Strategic autonomy describes a foreign policy approach where a state seeks to maintain the freedom to pursue its own national interests without being restricted by formal military alliances. By engaging in mutually beneficial relationships with multiple major powers simultaneously, the state avoids over-dependence

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on any single partner. This strategy is increasingly favored by middle powers navigating a complex and multipolar world.

18. (A) Barack Obama
The Pivot to Asia, also known as the rebalance to the Indo-Pacific, was a signature geopolitical strategy of the Barack Obama administration. This policy aimed to shift American diplomatic, economic, and military resources toward East and Southeast Asia. The goal was to strengthen regional alliances and manage the rise of China within a stable, rules-based international framework during the early 21st century.

19. (C) Russia seeks to establish a multipolar world order to counterbalance Western hegemony.
Russia's contemporary foreign policy is fundamentally driven by a desire to establish a multipolar world order. By challenging Western hegemony and seeking to counterbalance the influence of the United States and its allies, Russia aims to restore its status as a major global power. This approach involves strengthening ties with non-Western nations and participating in alternative institutional frameworks like BRICS.

20. (A) 3, 1, 2, 4
The timeline of major global events begins with the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962, followed by the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991. The BRICS grouping was formally established in the late 2000s to represent emerging economies. Finally, China officially announced the Belt and Road Initiative in 2013, marking a significant effort to expand its global infrastructure and economic influence.

21. (C) China explicitly rejects the concept of multipolarity in favor of unipolarity.
China is a leading advocate for a multipolar world order, explicitly rejecting unipolarity and the perceived dominance of a single superpower. Through initiatives like the Belt and Road and its central role in global supply chains, China seeks to expand its influence within a system of multiple power centers. Its recent use of assertive wolf warrior diplomacy further reflects this strategic stance.

22. (B) Japan - Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) framework
Japan is the primary architect and promoter of the Free and Open Indo-Pacific framework, which emphasizes maritime security, the rule of law, and economic connectivity. This strategy is designed to ensure a stable regional order and counter coercive practices. Japan's role in promoting this vision has become a central pillar of its contemporary foreign policy and regional engagement.

23. (D) China - Near Abroad Policy
The Near Abroad concept is specifically associated with Russian foreign policy, referring to the independent states that emerged following the collapse of the Soviet Union. China's regional policies focus on initiatives like the Belt and Road or its specific maritime claims. While the US historically followed the Monroe Doctrine and India pursues the Act East policy, the Near Abroad remains uniquely Russian.

24. (A) Direct unilateral military annexation of neighboring states
The European Union's normative power is characterized by its ability to influence global standards and behaviors through non-coercive means, such as human rights conditionalities in trade deals, the promotion of democracy, and strict environmental regulations. Unilateral military annexation is entirely inconsistent with these values and the EU's established legal framework, as its influence relies on the appeal of its norms.

25. (A) 1, 2, 3, and 5
Major powers utilize various tools to project influence, including the extensive US military base network and Russia's strategic use of energy resources. Japan's policy was historically shaped by constitutional constraints, while India's pursuit of a permanent UNSC seat reflects its desire for a polycentric order. However, the EU is not purely a military alliance; it is a deeply integrated economic union.

26. (A) Engaging in issue-based partnerships with various global powers simultaneously.
India's contemporary strategy of multi-alignment involves engaging in various issue-based partnerships with different global powers

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44. (B) Unequal distribution of technology and digital literacy between and within nations.
The digital divide refers to the significant gap in access to modern information and communication technology between different regions and social groups. This inequality is primarily caused by disparities in economic development, infrastructure investment, and digital literacy. In the context of the global order, this divide can exacerbate existing imbalances, limiting the ability of certain nations to participate fully in the global economy.

45. (C) David Held
David Held is a prominent scholar known for his extensive work on the various perspectives of globalization, categorizing them into hyperglobalist, sceptic, and transformationalist views. His analysis examines how globalization reshapes state power, global governance, and political community. Held's framework has become a standard tool for students and researchers to understand the complex and often contradictory nature of contemporary global integration.

46. (D) The adaptation of global ideas, products, or processes to local contexts.
Glocalization involves the simultaneous presence of both global and local trends. It specifically refers to the adaptation of global products, ideas, or processes to suit the unique cultural, social, and economic conditions of a local context. This process ensures that global influences do not simply erase local identity but are instead integrated and modified, creating a unique hybrid of global and local characteristics.

47. (A) An ideological framework that interprets and promotes the process of globalisation.
Globalism is an ideological framework that provides a specific interpretation and promotion of the globalization process. It encompasses various viewpoints, such as market globalism, which emphasizes neoliberal economic values, and justice globalism, which focuses on social equity. Unlike the process of globalization itself, globalism involves a set of beliefs and values aimed at shaping the world according to a particular vision.

48. (B) It is a monolithic movement with a single unified ideology globally.
The anti-globalization movement is not a monolithic entity but rather a diverse and decentralized coalition of various groups with different motivations. It includes environmentalists, labor unions, and indigenous rights activists who protest against the perceived negative impacts of neoliberal policies. While they share common targets like major international financial institutions, their specific goals and underlying ideologies can vary significantly across the globe.

49. (B) Political Globalisation - Proliferation of international NGOs
Political globalization is characterized by the increasing importance of international organizations and non-governmental entities in shaping global policy. The proliferation of international NGOs is a key indicator of this trend, as these actors operate across borders to influence state behavior and international norms. This dimension reflects the shift toward more complex and polycentric forms of governance that transcend the traditional nation-state model.

50. (A) 1, 2, 4, and 5
Economic globalization has empowered transnational corporations, while transformationalists argue that these processes are fundamentally reshaping state sovereignty. Cultural globalization often meets resistance due to fears of homogenization, yet technological advances have made global communication significantly cheaper. Sceptics, however, tend to view the current level of integration as neither unprecedented nor irreversible, often emphasizing the enduring power of national governments and regionalism.

51. (C) Marxists - View globalisation as a new stage of Western imperialism
While Marxists do view globalization as an extension of capitalist expansion, the statement provided in the question mistakenly simplifies their complex perspective. Transformationalists believe globalization is a transformative force, while sceptics argue that current trends are not entirely new. Hyperglobalists often argue that the nation-state is becoming obsolete. The core of

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35. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
Major powers employ specific strategic concepts to project influence. China uses the Belt and Road Initiative for global connectivity, while Russia focuses on its Near Abroad sphere of influence. The United States initiated the Pivot to Asia to rebalance its regional priorities. India emphasizes its Neighborhood First policy to strengthen ties and ensure stability within its immediate geographic region.

36. (D) SAARC - India
The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation consists of eight member states, with India being the most dominant regional power in terms of economy, geography, and population. Other organizations listed involve different dynamics: the SCO includes China and Russia, NATO is a transatlantic alliance led by the US, and ASEAN is a collective of Southeast Asian nations without a single hegemon.

37. (C) Japan - Won
The yen is the official currency of Japan, not the won, which is the currency used in both South and North Korea. Other major global powers are correctly paired with their currencies: the United States uses the dollar, China utilizes the renminbi, and many member states of the European Union have adopted the euro as their official currency.

38. (D) Its status as the world's largest exporter of raw petroleum.
The European Union faces structural challenges such as the economic impact of Brexit, internal foreign policy disagreements, and the lack of a fully integrated military. However, it is not the world's largest exporter of raw petroleum; in fact, the EU is a significant net importer of energy. Its global influence is based on economic and normative power rather than fossil fuel exports.

39. (D) A social condition characterized by tight global economic and political interconnections.
Globality refers to a social condition characterized by dense and pervasive global economic, political, and cultural interconnections. It is often described as the end-state toward which the process of globalization is moving. Unlike globalism, which is an ideological framework, or globalization, which is a dynamic process, globality represents the state of being globalized where traditional borders become increasingly less significant.

40. (A) 1, 2, and 3
Globalization is the active process of increasing interconnectedness, while globality is the resulting state of being globalized. Globalism provides the ideological lens through which these processes are interpreted and promoted. However, market globalism typically advocates for free trade and deregulation rather than heavy state intervention. These distinctions are crucial for understanding the different dimensions and interpretations of our modern interconnected world.

41. (C) The deregulation of domestic markets and integration into global supply chains.
Market globalism promotes the integration of national economies into a unified global market through deregulation and the removal of trade barriers. To assess its impact on developing nations, one should investigate how these countries open their domestic markets to foreign investment and participate in global supply chains. This process often leads to significant economic shifts, impacting local industries, labor markets, and governance.

42. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
Justice globalism focuses on achieving equitable global wealth distribution and environmental sustainability, often critiquing the current international order. In contrast, neoliberal globalism, or market globalism, prioritizes the unrestricted movement of capital, goods, and services. Both represent powerful ideological frameworks that seek to shape the direction and values of the globalization process, reflecting different priorities for the future of global society.

43. (C) Economic Globalisation
The relocation of manufacturing to take advantage of lower costs and the subsequent sale of products in global markets is a primary feature of economic globalization. This phenomenon demonstrates the high level of international economic integration and the influence of transnational corporations. It reflects the search for efficiency and profit within a globalized system where capital and production can move relatively freely across borders.

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supply of high-end microchips is now a vital component of national security and economic leadership in the global order.

77. (C) Paris Agreement - Global internet governance protocol
The Paris Agreement is a landmark international treaty focused on climate change mitigation and adaptation, not global internet governance. Other frameworks are correctly identified: the Wassenaar Arrangement governs export controls for dual-use technologies, the Outer Space Treaty provides the legal foundation for space law, and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty aims to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and promote peaceful energy.

78. (D) A traditional tank battle between two superpower armies.
Asymmetric threats involve the use of unconventional tactics by weaker actors to exploit the vulnerabilities of stronger ones. Examples include ransomware attacks, the use of commercial drones for reconnaissance, and automated disinformation campaigns. In contrast, a traditional tank battle between superpower armies represents a symmetric, conventional form of warfare, characterized by the direct engagement of similar military forces and capabilities.

79. (A) The fragmentation of the internet due to national regulations and censorship.
A "splinternet" refers to the fragmentation of the internet into separate regions or networks due to different national laws, censorship policies, and technological controls. Countries may restrict websites, monitor online activities, or create their own digital ecosystems. This reduces the idea of one open global internet and creates multiple controlled versions of the internet across the world.

80. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The European Union has established itself as a global regulatory superpower, particularly within the technology sector. A prime example is the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which has forced multinational companies worldwide to adapt their data handling practices to meet European standards. This Brussels Effect demonstrates how the EU uses its market power to shape global norms and protect consumer rights.

81. (B) Evaluating R&D investment, STEM education, and intellectual property frameworks.
Evaluating a nation's innovation capacity requires a comprehensive assessment of its investment in research and development, the quality of its STEM education, and the strength of its intellectual property frameworks. These factors are critical indicators of a country's ability to develop new technologies and maintain a competitive edge in the global economy. Innovation capacity is increasingly linked to geopolitical power.

82. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
The digital divide is not limited to disparities between the Global North and the Global South; it is a pervasive issue found within individual countries as well. This gap is often most evident between urban areas with high-speed connectivity and rural regions that lack adequate infrastructure. Addressing this internal divide is crucial for ensuring equitable access to economic opportunities and essential digital services.

83. (C) Cyber sovereignty
Cyber sovereignty is the concept that a state should have the authority to control the internet and digital activity within its borders. This approach often involves creating national firewalls, mandating local data storage, and promoting indigenous platforms to replace foreign ones. By asserting this control, a government seeks to protect its national security and maintain social stability against external digital influences.

84. (D) Concerns over data security, espionage, and reliance on foreign infrastructure vendors.
The global tension surrounding 5G infrastructure is primarily driven by concerns over data security, potential espionage, and the strategic risks of relying on foreign technology vendors for critical communication networks. Because 5G is foundational for future innovations like autonomous vehicles and smart cities, controlling the hardware and software used in these networks has become a major point of geopolitical competition.

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the Marxist critique focuses on class struggle and capital accumulation globally.

52. (D) The implementation of autarkic economic policies by a sovereign state.
Political globalization involves the expansion of international legal jurisdictions, the signing of multilateral agreements, and the growing influence of global institutions like the United Nations. These trends represent a move toward collective action and shared norms. In contrast, the implementation of autarkic economic policies, which seek total self-sufficiency, represents a rejection of international integration and a return to strict national isolation.

53. (C) The emergence of alternative institutional frameworks like the BRICS Development Bank.
The emergence of alternative institutional frameworks, such as the New Development Bank established by the BRICS nations, is a strong indicator of a transition toward a multipolar order. These institutions provide emerging powers with platforms to exercise influence independently of established Western-led bodies like the IMF or World Bank. This shift reflects a more diffuse distribution of economic and political authority globally.

54. (B) Analysis of multiple channels connecting societies and the minor role of military force.
Analyzing complex interdependence requires evaluating the multiple channels that connect societies, including informal ties between elites and the activities of transnational corporations. A key feature of this concept is that military force is often less useful as a tool of policy when states are deeply interconnected. This perspective highlights how economic and social ties can mitigate the traditional security-focused nature of international relations.

55. (C) A is true but R is false.
While democratization is often seen as a factor that can contribute to global stability, the claim that democratic states never engage in armed conflict is factually incorrect. History shows that democracies do indeed go to war, although they are statistically much less likely to fight each other. Therefore, while the assertion has merit in international relations theory, the reasoning provided is an oversimplification.

56. (A) Democratic Peace Theory
Democratic Peace Theory is a central concept in liberal international relations theory, positing that democratic states are highly unlikely to engage in armed conflict with one another. This peace is often attributed to shared institutional constraints, transparent decision-making processes, and common norms of peaceful dispute resolution. While democracies may still fight non-democracies, their mutual interactions are characterized by a unique level of stability.

57. (C) Samuel P. Huntington
Samuel P. Huntington authored the influential book "The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century," which analyzed the surge of democratic transitions starting in the mid-1970s. He categorized these shifts into distinct historical waves, examining the internal and external factors that drove political change in Southern Europe, Latin America, and post-communist states. His work remains a foundational text in transitology.

58. (A) It involves the gradual erosion of democratic norms, institutions, and liberties within a state.
Democratic backsliding refers to the gradual and often subtle erosion of democratic norms, institutions, and civil liberties within an established or emerging democracy. Unlike a sudden military coup, backsliding frequently involves elected leaders using legal and administrative means to weaken checks and balances, curtail media freedom, and undermine the independence of the judiciary. This process can significantly weaken the overall quality of governance.

59. (A) 4, 1, 2, 3
The historical progression of democratization waves began with the post-WWII Second Wave. This was followed by the Third Wave, which started with the 1974 Carnation Revolution in Portugal. The collapse of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s marked a significant expansion of this wave. Finally, the Arab Spring uprisings in the early 2010s represented a more recent attempt at democratic change.

60. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Democratization has occurred in several distinct historical periods. The First Wave involved the

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expansion of suffrage in the 19th century, while the Second Wave followed WWII decolonization. The Third Wave saw transitions in Southern Europe and Latin America during the late 20th century. Most recently, the Arab Spring characterized the early 2010s uprisings across the Middle East and North Africa region.

61. (C) The UN Charter explicitly mandates that all member states must be liberal democracies.
The United Nations Charter does not explicitly mandate that all member states must be liberal democracies; rather, it emphasizes the principles of sovereign equality and non-interference in domestic affairs. While the UN promotes human rights and democratic values, its membership includes a wide variety of political systems. Democracy promotion has indeed been used as a foreign policy tool by many Western nations.

62. (D) Apartheid dismantling - Transition to multiracial democracy in South Africa.
The dismantling of Apartheid in South Africa was a landmark transition that led to the establishment of a multiracial democracy. Other terms are often misused: the Velvet Revolution was a non-violent transition in Czechoslovakia, while Color Revolutions were pro-democracy movements in several post-Soviet states. Perestroika refers to economic and political restructuring in the late Soviet era rather than the establishment of totalitarianism.

63. (A) Rule of Law - Subordination of all to the law, including leaders
Rule of law is a fundamental pillar of a consolidated democracy, ensuring that all individuals and institutions, including the government and its leaders, are subject to the same legal standards. This principle prevents the arbitrary use of power and protects the rights of citizens. In a healthy democratic system, the rule of law is supported by an independent and impartial judicial system.

64. (B) Foreign military occupation
Democratization is typically driven by internal factors such as economic development, the growth of a middle class, a strong civil society, and widespread public dissatisfaction with corruption. These domestic forces create the necessary conditions for sustainable political change. In contrast, foreign military occupation is an external intervention that may attempt to impose a new system but is not considered a domestic driver.

65. (B) 1, 3, and 4
The 'End of History' thesis famously argued that liberal democracy represents the final form of government. While this idea has been debated, it is clear that the spread of democracy is uneven and subject to reversals. Furthermore, international institutions often struggle to enforce democratic norms on powerful states. Notably, democratic backsliding can occur through gradual institutional erosion, not just sudden military coups.

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66. (A) Establishing a transitional justice system and organizing monitored elections.
In the aftermath of conflict, establishing a transitional justice system and organizing monitored elections are effective initial steps for an international body to promote democratization. These actions help to address past grievances, build public trust in new institutions, and provide a legitimate mechanism for the transfer of power. Such processes are essential for creating a foundation for long-term political stability and democratic governance.

67. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
The European Union utilizes the Copenhagen Criteria to evaluate whether candidate countries are ready for accession. These standards require states to have stable institutions that guarantee democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and the protection of minorities. By setting these high entry requirements, the EU uses its enlargement policy as a powerful tool for promoting democratic consolidation and stability across Europe.

68. (D) Democratic backsliding toward competitive authoritarianism.
The scenario where a newly elected leader systematically dismantles independent institutions and suppresses the opposition is a clear example of democratic backsliding. This process often leads to the emergence of competitive authoritarianism, where the appearance of democratic procedures remains but the underlying substance of democracy is lost. It highlights the vulnerability of new

democracies and the importance of strong institutional checks.

69. (C) Decision-making processes often lack direct accountability to the global public.
The "democratic deficit" in international organizations refers to the perceived lack of direct accountability and transparency in their decision-making processes. Many global bodies are governed by appointed officials rather than directly elected representatives, leading to a gap between the institutions and the public they impact. This issue often results in criticism that these organizations are disconnected from the needs of ordinary citizens.

70. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The rapid advancement of science and technology in the 21st century has fundamentally altered the global balance of power. Specifically, cyber capabilities and artificial intelligence have enabled smaller states and non-state actors to project power asymmetrically against much larger adversaries. This shift challenges traditional military superiority and forces all actors to rethink their security strategies in an increasingly digital and interconnected world.

71. (D) Techno-nationalism
Techno-nationalism refers to the strategic link between a state's technology policy and its national security and economic prosperity. In this framework, governments intervene in the tech sector to ensure they maintain a competitive edge and reduce reliance on foreign entities for critical technologies. This approach treats technological innovation as a vital instrument of state power in the contemporary global geopolitical arena.

72. (A) State-sponsored attacks on information systems to disrupt or destroy infrastructure.
Cyber warfare involves state-sponsored or state-directed attacks on computer networks and information systems with the intent to disrupt, damage, or destroy an adversary's critical infrastructure. These activities can include disabling power grids, interfering with communication networks, or compromising sensitive government data. As a modern form of conflict, cyber warfare allows states to project power and achieve strategic goals without traditional kinetic force.

73. (C) AI can accelerate decision-making in conflicts, potentially destabilizing deterrence models.
The integration of Artificial Intelligence into military and strategic systems can drastically accelerate decision-making timeframes during conflicts. This speed potentially destabilizes traditional deterrence models by leaving little time for human deliberation or diplomatic intervention. While AI offers significant commercial benefits, its impact on the global order is increasingly defined by its dual-use nature and its potential to alter the dynamics of international security.

74. (A) Commercial entities like SpaceX have no impact on state-level space geopolitics.
Commercial entities like SpaceX have had a profound impact on state-level space geopolitics by significantly reducing the cost of access to orbit and providing essential services to governments. Space is increasingly seen as a contested domain, and while international treaties prohibit weapons of mass destruction in orbit, satellite technology remains vital for military communication. Private sector innovations are fundamentally reshaping space governance.

75. (A) 1, 2, and 5
Strategic competition over semiconductors is a key feature of modern geopolitics, and technology transfer regulations are often used to maintain dominance. Furthermore, autonomous weapons systems present significant ethical challenges under international humanitarian law. While technology has influenced domestic stability and space is not entirely demilitarized, these points highlight the critical intersection of innovation and the current global security landscape.

76. (B) Semiconductors (Microchips) - The "new oil" driving strategic competition
Semiconductors are frequently described as the "new oil" because they are essential components for virtually all modern technologies, from consumer electronics to advanced military hardware. This importance has made them a central focus of strategic competition between major powers. Controlling the production and

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simultaneously. This flexible approach allows India to pursue its national interests across diverse sectors, such as security, energy, and technology, without being bound by rigid alliance commitments. It reflects a pragmatic response to the complexities of a multipolar world, ensuring strategic autonomy while maintaining broad international engagement.

27. (D) Transitioning toward a "normal state" posture in response to regional threats.
Japan's recent shifts in defense policy, including increased spending and active participation in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, indicate a transition toward a normal state posture. This change is primarily a response to evolving regional threats and security challenges in the Indo-Pacific. Rather than abandoning its US alliance, Japan is strengthening its own capabilities to play a more proactive role in regional stability.

28. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
The European Union effectively functions as a single entity in international trade negotiations, leveraging its collective economic weight. However, it does not possess a unified, singular military force that has replaced the national armies of its member states. While there are efforts toward greater defense cooperation, military command and sovereign control over armed forces remain primarily at the individual national level.

29. (C) The weaponization of energy interdependence by major global powers.
The use of energy supplies as leverage in geopolitical conflicts is a clear example of the weaponization of interdependence. In this scenario, a major power utilizes its control over essential resources to influence the political decisions of other states. The resulting shift toward alternative energy sources and new suppliers highlights the strategic vulnerabilities created by deep economic connections in the contemporary order.

30. (C) A is true but R is false.
Many Western analysts view China's Belt and Road Initiative as a strategic tool designed to alter the existing global order by expanding Chinese influence. This initiative is not limited to cultural exchange; it primarily involves massive infrastructure projects and significant financial lending. These economic and debt implications are central to the strategic concerns raised by other nations regarding the initiative's long-term impact.

31. (A) Joseph Nye
Joseph Nye introduced the concept of Soft Power to describe a state's ability to influence others through attraction and persuasion rather than coercion or payment. This form of power arises from the appeal of a country's culture, political ideals, and policies. Understanding soft power is essential for analyzing how major states maintain global influence beyond their traditional military and economic capabilities.

32. (B) G20
The G20 serves as a premier forum for international economic cooperation, bringing together the world's major advanced and emerging economies. It plays a vital role in polycentric governance by addressing global financial stability, climate change, and sustainable development. By including a wide range of nations, the G20 reflects the shifting distribution of economic power in the contemporary world order.

33. (B) The US dollar's status as the global reserve currency underpins its hegemony.
The status of the US dollar as the world's primary reserve currency is a fundamental pillar of American global hegemony. This financial dominance allows the United States to exercise significant influence over global trade and capital flows. While the US remains deeply engaged in regions like the Indo-Pacific, its structural power is uniquely underpinned by its central role in the international financial system.

34. (A) Japan's constitution explicitly encourages the use of war to settle disputes.
Japan's constitution, specifically Article 9, renounces war as a sovereign right and prohibits the use of force to settle international disputes. This pacifist stance has been a defining feature of its post-WWII identity. Despite this, Japan remains a top global economy, a major provider of development assistance, and an active participant in regional security dialogues like the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue.

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85. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Prominent scholars have introduced key concepts that shape our understanding of international relations. Francis Fukuyama is associated with the End of History, while Samuel Huntington famously proposed the Clash of Civilizations. Kenneth Waltz is the leading figure in structural realism or neorealism. Joseph Nye coined the term Soft Power, highlighting the importance of attraction and persuasion in global politics.

86. (B) Neoliberal Institutionalism
Neoliberal institutionalism argues that international institutions and deep economic interdependence can effectively mitigate the anarchic nature of the international system. By providing forums for communication, reducing transaction costs, and creating shared rules, these institutions facilitate cooperation and reduce the likelihood of conflict. This perspective offers a liberal alternative to the more pessimistic outlook of realism by emphasizing the potential for mutual gains.

87. (D) Great powers seek to maximize their power to achieve regional hegemony.
Offensive realism, most prominently associated with John Mearsheimer, posits that the anarchic structure of the international system compels great powers to maximize their relative power. According to this theory, states are not satisfied with the status quo and will seek to achieve regional hegemony as the best way to ensure their long-term survival. This leads to intense and inevitable strategic competition.

88. (A) It functions as a formal military alliance with a mutual defense clause akin to NATO.
BRICS is primarily a grouping of major emerging economies—Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa—focused on economic cooperation and reforming global governance. It was originally an economic acronym and does not function as a formal military alliance with a mutual defense clause like NATO. Its main goal is to increase the collective influence of its members in international financial institutions.

89. (C) Systemic Level - The anarchic nature of global politics
The systemic level of analysis in international relations focuses on the overarching structure of the global system, such as its anarchic nature and the distribution of power among states. This perspective examines how the system itself constrains and shapes the behavior of all actors. In contrast, the individual level focuses on leaders, while the state level examines domestic political and social factors.

90. (B) 1, 2, and 4
The United States has frequently used economic sanctions as a foreign policy tool and led the establishment of the post-WWII Bretton Woods institutions. Today, the rise of China represents the most significant challenge to US global leadership. While the US has participated in multilateral actions, it has also engaged in unilateral military interventions, contrary to the idea of exclusive multilateralism.

91. (D) MERCOSUR - Asian military alliance
MERCOSUR is a South American trade bloc and economic union, not an Asian military alliance. Other regional organizations are correctly described: the EU is a deeply integrated supranational union, ASEAN is an intergovernmental body focused on regional stability through consensus, and the African Union works toward continental integration. These organizations play crucial roles in managing regional affairs and promoting cooperation.

92. (B) Cultural appeal of its cinema and music
Hard power refers to a state's ability to use coercion or inducements, such as military force and economic strength, to achieve its goals. Indicators include nuclear arsenals, GDP, and naval capabilities. Cultural appeal, however, is a primary component of Soft Power, which relies on attraction and persuasion. Distinguishing between these two forms of power is essential for a comprehensive analysis.

93. (C) A state that seeks to alter the existing distribution of power and international norms to its advantage.
A revisionist state is one that is dissatisfied with the current international order and seeks to alter the existing distribution of power and established norms to its advantage. Such states often challenge the status quo through various means, including military buildup or the creation

approach allows a state to destabilize a rival from within without resorting to traditional military force. By exploiting social media networks and digital vulnerabilities, actors can shape public opinion and undermine democratic processes, presenting a significant challenge to international stability.

129. (B) Power shifts to those controlling critical minerals and green energy technologies.
The global transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy is causing a significant shift in the geopolitical balance of power. Influence is increasingly moving toward nations that control the supply of critical minerals—such as lithium and cobalt—essential for green technologies. This change creates new strategic dependencies and areas of competition, fundamentally altering the traditional importance of fossil-fuel-rich states.

130. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The transition toward a multipolar world order is often characterized by periods of geopolitical instability as the distribution of power shifts. Rising powers frequently demand a greater voice and more influence in international institutions, which can lead to significant friction with established powers that seek to protect the status quo. This tension is a classic feature of transitions between different systemic structures.

131. (C) A state that pursues multilateralism and diplomatic mediation via moderate influence.
A middle power is a state that possesses moderate global influence and typically pursues its foreign policy goals through multilateralism and diplomatic mediation. These nations often act as bridge-builders in international disputes, promoting stability and adherence to international law. While they lack the overwhelming capabilities of superpowers, middle powers play a crucial role in maintaining the rules-based order and fostering cooperation.

132. (D) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
The International Monetary Fund was primarily established to ensure the stability of the global financial system by providing short-term loans to member countries facing balance-of-payment crises. This assistance helps states stabilize their economies and maintain international trade. While the World Bank focuses on long-term development projects, the IMF serves as a crucial lender of last resort in the polycentric global economic order.

133. (C) A network of Chinese military and commercial facilities along Indian Ocean sea lines.
China's String of Pearls strategy refers to a network of commercial and military facilities located along key maritime sea lines in the Indian Ocean. This initiative is designed to project Chinese influence, secure energy supply routes, and enhance its overall maritime presence in a vital strategic region. It has raised significant concerns among other regional powers regarding the potential for long-term militarization.

134. (B) The UN General Assembly resolutions are legally binding on all member states.
Resolutions passed by the United Nations General Assembly are generally not legally binding on member states, except in specific internal administrative matters. In contrast, resolutions from the UN Security Council can be legally binding under certain conditions. The UN was established in 1945 with the primary goal of maintaining peace, and the Security Council's five permanent members each possess the power of veto.

135. (A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
Specific events and doctrines are closely tied to particular global entities. Brexit was the process of the United Kingdom leaving the EU, while the Belt and Road Initiative is a signature Chinese policy. The America First doctrine characterized the US approach under the Trump administration. Strategic Autonomy is a concept frequently advocated by the European Union and France to enhance independence.

136. (A) Unipolarity - Post-Cold War USA
The era immediately following the Cold War is the most prominent historical example of unipolarity, with the United States acting as the sole global superpower. Other pairings are inaccurate: the Cold War was a bipolar era, the pre-WWI period featured a multipolar system in Europe, and polycentrism is a modern concept

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the interactions and perceptions of its actors. This perspective allows for a nuanced understanding of how global politics can change over time.

103. (C) A is false but R is true.
While it is true that transnational media conglomerates export Western cultural products globally, this has not led to a completely homogenous global culture or the total eradication of local traditions. Instead, global influences often interact with local cultures in a process of glocalization. Therefore, the assertion of total cultural uniformity is factually incorrect, even if the underlying reasoning is valid.

104. (A) The rules, norms, and institutions that manage global affairs without a global government.
Global governance refers to the complex collection of rules, norms, and institutions that manage international affairs in the absence of a centralized world government. This framework involves the interaction of sovereign states, international organizations, and various non-state actors. By providing a structure for cooperation, global governance helps to address transnational challenges such as climate change, trade disputes, and international security issues.

105. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
India's pursuit of multi-alignment is a strategic attempt to navigate the complexities of an increasingly multipolar world order. By engaging with multiple rival power blocs simultaneously, India aims to maximize its strategic autonomy and protect its national interests across different sectors. This approach reflects a pragmatic response to a diffuse distribution of global power, allowing India to maintain influence without choosing sides.

106. (A) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) - Economic Globalization
Foreign Direct Investment is a primary indicator of economic globalization, representing the deep integration of global capital and production. In contrast, the spread of cultural products like movies is a feature of cultural globalization, and institutions like the International Criminal Court are examples of political globalization. Understanding these different dimensions is essential for analyzing the comprehensive impact of global interconnectedness on modern society.

107. (D) Marxism - Focuses on the psychological traits of individual leaders
Marxism in international relations focuses on the global economic structure, class struggle, and the exploitation of the periphery by the capitalist core, rather than the psychological traits of individual leaders. Realism remains state-centric and power-focused, while liberalism emphasizes the role of institutions and trade. Feminism provides a critical lens by highlighting gender dynamics and inequalities that are often overlooked in traditional theories.

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108. (B) The existence of a clear hierarchy of issues with military security always at the top.
Complex interdependence is characterized by multiple channels of contact between societies and the declining utility of military force in many situations. A key aspect of this concept is that there is no clear, permanent hierarchy of issues where military security always takes precedence. Instead, different issues like economics or the environment can become top priorities depending on the specific international context.

109. (C) An ideology linking technology directly to national security and economic prosperity.
Techno-nationalism is an ideology that directly links a nation's technological development to its national security and overall economic prosperity. It encourages states to protect and promote their domestic tech industries to gain a strategic advantage in the global arena. This perspective treats technological innovation as a zero-sum game where maintaining a lead is essential for preserving a state's relative power.

110. (A) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2
Different international relations theories focus on distinct mechanisms of order. Balance of power aims to prevent any single state from dominating, while democratic peace theory emphasizes the stability among democracies. Complex interdependence highlights how interconnectedness can reduce the utility of military force. Hegemonic stability theory focuses on a dominant power's role in providing essential global public goods for the entire international system.

111. (A) The ratio of its trade (exports plus imports) to its GDP.
To accurately assess a state's level of integration into the global economy, economists primarily evaluate the ratio of its total trade—including both exports and imports—to its Gross Domestic Product. A higher ratio indicates a greater reliance on and participation in global markets. This measure provides a clear indicator of how deeply a nation's economic health is tied to international trade flows.

112. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
The Washington Consensus refers to a specific set of free-market economic policies, such as privatization and deregulation, that were widely promoted by institutions like the IMF and World Bank. It does not advocate for the nationalization of industries; in fact, it strongly encourages the opposite by promoting the role of the private sector and reducing direct state control over the economy.

113. (B) Financial contagion due to economic globalization
The scenario where an economic crash in one major market immediately triggers a recession in another deeply integrated nation is a classic example of financial contagion. This phenomenon is a direct consequence of economic globalization, where interconnected financial systems allow shocks to spread rapidly across borders. It highlights the increased vulnerability of nations to external economic events beyond their direct control.

114. (A) The gradual erosion of institutional checks and balances by elected leaders.
Democratic backsliding is primarily caused by the gradual erosion of institutional checks and balances by elected leaders who seek to consolidate their power. This process often involves the weakening of the judiciary, the media, and other oversight bodies that are designed to limit executive authority. By systematically undermining these constraints, leaders can slowly transform a democratic system into a more authoritarian one.

115. (B) 1, 3, and 4
Globality represents the end-state of a fully interconnected world, and market globalism seeks to imbue this process with neoliberal values. Globalization itself is famously characterized by the compression of time and space, making the world feel smaller and more integrated. Anti-globalization movements, however, typically focus on resisting perceived inequalities and corporate dominance rather than promoting cultural homogenization across the globe.

116. (D) Populism
Populism is a political ideology that frames society as being divided into two antagonistic groups: the pure people and the corrupt elite. This approach often challenges liberal democratic norms by questioning the legitimacy of established institutions and experts. In many parts of the world, populist movements have gained significant influence, reflecting widespread dissatisfaction with the traditional political and economic order.

117. (C) When weaker states align with a dominant power to ensure survival and share spoils.
Bandwagoning occurs when a weaker state chooses to align itself with a dominant or rising power rather than attempting to balance against it. This strategy is often motivated by a desire to ensure national survival and to share in the benefits or spoils that the hegemon provides. It represents a pragmatic response for states that lack the capacity for independent defense.

118. (B) Globalization has completely eradicated the concept of state sovereignty globally.
While globalization has certainly challenged and complicated the traditional Westphalian concept of state sovereignty, it has not completely eradicated it. Sovereign states remain the primary actors in the international system, even as they increasingly share authority with non-state actors and face limitations from humanitarian norms. The nature of sovereignty is evolving to adapt to a more polycentric and interconnected world order.

119. (D) Marxism - Views the global economy as an arena of capitalist exploitation
Marxism provides a critical perspective on the international political economy, viewing the global system as an arena where capitalist powers exploit the labor and resources of the periphery. Other approaches have different focuses:

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mercantilism emphasizes state power and trade surpluses, while economic liberalism promotes free trade and the belief that markets are most efficient when left to operate with minimal interference.

120. (A) 3, 1, 2, 4
The progression of transformative technologies began with the Industrial Revolution in the 18th and 19th centuries, which utilized steam power. This was followed by the invention and use of the atomic bomb in the mid-20th century. The late 20th century saw the widespread adoption of the internet, and the early 21st century is marked by the deployment of 5G telecommunications.

121. (C) Fourth Wave - Triggered by the French Revolution
The French Revolution is historically linked to the roots of the First Wave of democratization, not a fourth wave. The first wave occurred between 1828 and 1926, while the second wave followed World War II. The third wave is widely recognized as having started with the 1974 Carnation Revolution in Portugal. Current debates continue regarding the possibility or nature of a fourth wave.

122. (A) The United Nations Security Council
Non-state actors, such as NGOs like Amnesty International, transnational corporations, and even terrorist organizations, play a significant role in the polycentric world order. However, the United Nations Security Council is an intergovernmental body composed of sovereign state representatives. It is a central part of the formal state-based international system rather than a non-state actor in the traditional sense.

123. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The World Trade Organization is currently struggling to function effectively in a multipolar world where major powers are increasingly at odds. A primary cause of this dysfunction is the paralysis of its dispute settlement mechanism, caused by certain states blocking the appointment of new appellate judges. This crisis undermines the rules-based international trade system and highlights the challenges of multilateral cooperation today.

124. (B) Shaping the 'normal' in IR through values, principles, and international rules.
Normative Power Europe refers to the European Union's ability to shape global perceptions of what is normal in international relations through the promotion of its core values and principles. These include human rights, democracy, the rule of law, and sustainable development. By setting high standards in its own policies and trade agreements, the EU influences the behavior of other global actors.

125. (A) 1, 3, 4, and 5
Digital surveillance can indeed strengthen authoritarian control, while quantum computing poses a future threat to current encryption methods. Concepts like data sovereignty and technological decoupling are central to modern geopolitical debates as states seek to control their digital environments. However, the idea that space militarization has no real-world basis is incorrect, as space is increasingly viewed as a contested warfighting domain.

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126. (D) The strategic combination of both hard coercion and soft persuasion.
Smart Power involves the strategic combination of both hard power—coercion and military force—and soft power—attraction and persuasion—to achieve national objectives. This approach recognizes that neither form of power is sufficient on its own in a complex global environment. By effectively integrating these tools, a state can build coalitions, enhance its legitimacy, and more successfully navigate various international challenges and opportunities.

127. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
India's Act East Policy represents a significant upgrade of its previous Look East Policy, focusing on deeper economic and strategic integration with the entire Indo-Pacific region. It aims to strengthen ties with Southeast Asian nations through increased connectivity and trade rather than isolating them. This policy is a central part of India's effort to play a more proactive role in regional affairs.

128. (B) Cyber/Information warfare
Using sophisticated disinformation campaigns to influence another nation's elections is a key tactic in modern cyber and information warfare. This

161. (B) The principle of "Common but Differentiated Responsibilities" places equal historical blame on all nations.
The principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities specifically recognizes that developed nations bear a greater historical responsibility for greenhouse gas emissions and should therefore lead mitigation efforts. It does not place equal blame on all nations. Global environmental governance is a polycentric challenge that relies on nationally determined contributions and requires significant cooperation and financial support for developing countries.

162. (A) Procedural Democracy - Focuses merely on the holding of elections
Procedural democracy focuses primarily on the formal mechanisms of a democratic system, such as the regular holding of elections. While these procedures are necessary, a substantive democracy goes further by ensuring the protection of civil liberties and social equality. Other models, like deliberative democracy, emphasize public discussion, while direct democracy involves citizens making decisions themselves rather than through representatives.

163. (C) OPEC - Promotes universal human rights
OPEC is an intergovernmental organization focused on coordinating the petroleum policies of its member countries and ensuring stable oil markets, not on promoting universal human rights. Other economic institutions are correctly identified: the IMF manages balance-of-payments issues, the World Bank finances development projects, and the WTO regulates international trade. Each plays a distinct role in the global economic architecture.

164. (D) Strict adherence to mercantilist economic policies
The liberal world order is defined by open, rules-based trade, multilateral institutionalism, and respect for human rights alongside state sovereignty. These principles are intended to facilitate international cooperation and economic prosperity. Strict adherence to mercantilist economic policies, which emphasize trade surpluses and state intervention to maximize relative wealth, is contrary to the liberal ideal of open markets.

165. (A) 1, 2, and 3
Russia maintains a significant global presence through its massive nuclear arsenal and its pursuit of influence within its Near Abroad. Its actions, such as the 2014 annexation of Crimea, have directly challenged the post-Cold War territorial order. However, Russia is not a member of the European Union, and its economy remains heavily reliant on the export of natural resources.

166. (B) Dominance maintained through coercion and the consent of subordinate states.
In Gramscian terms, hegemony refers to a form of dominance where a ruling group maintains its position through a combination of coercion and the manufactured consent of subordinate groups. In international relations, this implies that a hegemon leads not just through military force, but by establishing a set of ideas and values that others come to accept as legitimate or natural.

167. (D) The shift in ideas and identities between leaders that redefined threat perceptions.
Applying constructivism to the end of the Cold War involves analyzing how changes in the ideas and identities of key leaders led to a fundamental redefinition of threat perceptions. As actors began to view each other as partners rather than enemies, the structural competition of the era dissolved. This approach highlights the power of social interactions and norms over material capabilities.

168. (C) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
While the terms are related, polycentrism and multipolarity have distinct meanings. Multipolarity specifically refers to the distribution of power among several major states. Polycentrism is a broader concept that recognizes multiple centers of authority, including both sovereign states and a wide range of non-state actors. This distinction is crucial for understanding the increasing complexity of the contemporary global governance landscape.

169. (A) Science, Technology, and Global Order
The use of advanced AI and facial recognition for continuous citizen monitoring and political suppression illustrates the potential for technology to strengthen authoritarian control. This relationship highlights a critical dimension of the intersection between science and the

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involving multiple state and non-state centers of power.

137. (C) Constructivism - Material capabilities determine all behavior
Constructivism focuses on how ideas, identities, and norms shape international behavior, rather than arguing that material capabilities alone determine outcomes. Realism emphasizes the anarchic nature of the system and the quest for power, while liberalism focuses on the potential for absolute gains through cooperation. Institutionalism examines how international regimes and organizations can mitigate the security dilemma and facilitate state cooperation.

138. (A) Closed, autarkic command economies
The liberal international order established after World War II is built on pillars such as free trade capitalism, multilateral institutionalism, and the promotion of democracy. These elements are designed to foster cooperation and stability. In contrast, closed, autarkic command economies represent a rejection of these principles and are characteristic of systems that seek total self-sufficiency and isolation from global markets.

139. (A) 1, 3, 4, 2
The phases of globalization began with archaic globalization, such as the Silk Road trade. This was followed by proto-globalization during the Age of Discovery. Modern industrial globalization emerged in the 19th century with technological breakthroughs like steam power. Finally, the post-Cold War era saw the rise of hyperglobalization, characterized by unprecedented levels of digital and economic integration across the entire world.

140. (A) 1 and 2
The transitology paradigm historically assumed that all states undergoing democratic transitions would eventually consolidate as liberal democracies. Illiberal democracies are characterized by regular elections but a failure to protect essential civil liberties. However, the Arab Spring did not result in widespread stable democracies, and economic wealth is a helpful factor but does not guarantee a successful or lasting democratic transition.

141. (C) Withstanding, adapting to, and recovering from major attacks on critical systems.
Evaluating a state's cyber resilience involves determining its ability to withstand, adapt to, and rapidly recover from major attacks on its critical information systems. This competency is essential in the modern world order, as disruptions to digital infrastructure can have severe economic and security consequences. Strong cyber resilience requires a combination of technical defenses, robust recovery plans, and effective national policy.

142. (B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
These terms are often used correctly when globalization is described as the dynamic process of increasing interconnectedness, while globality refers to the resulting state or condition of being globalized. Both statements provided in the question have inverted these definitions. Understanding the distinction between the process and the state is fundamental for analyzing the current and future trends of global integration.

143. (A) Techno-nationalism / Cyber-sovereignty
Implementing a digital firewall to control internet traffic and create a national digital ecosystem is a practical application of cyber-sovereignty and techno-nationalism. This approach allows a state to monitor information flows and protect its internal digital space from external influence. Such policies reflect a desire to maintain national control over the digital domain, often challenging the ideal of a unified internet.

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144. (B) It causes gridlock and necessitates alternative, informal groupings to solve problems.
The rise of polycentrism often leads to political gridlock within traditional global governance mechanisms like the United Nations, as more diverse interests must be reconciled. Consequently, states frequently turn to alternative, informal groupings such as the G20 or BRICS to address specific problems. This fragmentation of authority reflects a more complex and competitive global environment where centralized decision-making is often difficult.

of alternative institutions. Their actions can create significant tension and instability within the international system.

94. (D) The military, economic, and ideological concentration of power within the US and Soviet blocs.
To effectively evaluate bipolarity during the Cold War, one must assess the concentration of military, economic, and ideological power within the American and Soviet-led blocs. This analysis reveals how the two superpowers dominated the international system, leaving little room for independent action by other states. The rigid division of the world into two opposing spheres is the defining characteristic of this order.

95. (A) 1, 2, and 4
Polycentrism implies multiple, overlapping spheres of authority involving both state and non-state actors, such as multinational corporations. Globalization has indeed weakened the absolute sovereignty of the traditional Westphalian state by increasing interdependence. However, intergovernmental organizations are not entirely independent of their member states, and the UN Security Council structure does not perfectly reflect today's more diffuse distribution of global power.

96. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
India's official nuclear doctrine is fundamentally based on the principle of No First Use, meaning it will only use nuclear weapons in response to a nuclear attack. However, India is not a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, as it views the treaty as discriminatory. This unique position reflects India's desire to maintain a credible minimum deterrent while upholding specific norms.

97. (B) Polycentric governance
When a global crisis is managed through the coordinated efforts of various regional bodies, private corporations, and state coalitions rather than a single hegemon, it exemplifies polycentric governance. This model reflects a world where authority is diffuse and multiple centers of power must interact to solve transnational problems. Such responses highlight the increasing role of non-state actors in addressing global challenges.

98. (A) A rising power threatens to displace a ruling power, leading to structural stress.
The Thucydides Trap refers to the severe structural stress that occurs when a rising power threatens to displace an established hegemon. According to Graham Allison, this dynamic historically leads to a high probability of war between the two powers. This concept is frequently applied to the contemporary relationship between China and the United States, highlighting the dangers inherent in power transitions.

99. (A) 2, 4, 1, 3
The timeline of these major international agreements begins with the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648, which established the modern state system. Centuries later, the World Trade Organization was created in 1995. This was followed by the Kyoto Protocol, which was adopted in 1997 to address climate change. Most recently, the Paris Climate Agreement was signed in 2015 to further global environmental efforts.

100. (B) 1, 3, 4, and 5
The European Union heavily utilizes normative power and allows passport-free movement within the Schengen Area. The UK's departure via Brexit was a major event, and the European Parliament remains the only directly elected body of the union. However, the euro is not used by all member states, as some have opted out or do not yet meet the necessary economic criteria.

101. (C) Russian terminology for the independent states that emerged after the Soviet collapse.
Near Abroad is a term used by Russian policymakers to refer to the independent states that emerged from the former Soviet Union. This concept highlights Russia's ongoing interest and perceived right to exercise influence within its immediate neighborhood. Maintaining stability and preventing the expansion of rival alliances into this region is a central and long-standing priority of Russian foreign policy.

102. (B) Constructivism
Constructivism is a theoretical approach that emphasizes how state identities and interests are not fixed but are socially constructed through shared ideas, norms, and culture. Unlike realism, which focuses on material power, constructivism argues that the international system is shaped by

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153. (C) All actors accept democratic rules as "the only game in town" for the transfer of power.
Democratic consolidation is achieved when all significant political actors accept democratic rules and institutions as the only game in town for the transfer of power. This means that elections are respected, and no group attempts to use violence or extra-constitutional means to achieve its goals. Consolidation ensures the long-term stability and resilience of a democracy against the threat of reversals.

154. (A) How participation in international regimes restricts a state's unilateral options.
To assess how globalism impacts national sovereignty, one must analyze how participation in international regimes and treaties restricts a state's ability to act unilaterally. By committing to shared rules and norms, states voluntarily limit their absolute freedom in exchange for the benefits of cooperation. This dynamic reflects the tension between traditional state authority and the requirements of managing an interconnected world.

155. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Polycentrism recognizes that global governance is no longer exclusively the domain of sovereign states. Non-state actors, such as non-governmental organizations and transnational corporations, possess significant resources and expertise that allow them to influence international policies and shape global norms. This diffuse distribution of authority reflects the increasing complexity of solving global challenges that transcend the capabilities of individual national governments.

156. (B) Economic globalization vs. State sovereignty
A corporation suing a sovereign state in an international tribunal highlights the inherent tension between economic globalization and national sovereignty. This scenario demonstrates how international trade and investment rules can limit a government's ability to implement domestic regulations, such as environmental protections. It reflects a world where private economic interests can challenge state authority within the framework of global legal institutions.

157. (C) Uneven growth rates allowing emerging powers to narrow the capability gap with the US.
The shift from unipolarity to multipolarity is primarily driven by the uneven economic growth rates among nations, which allow emerging powers to narrow the capability gap with the dominant hegemon. As states like China and India gain material and structural power, they demand a greater role in international affairs. This redistribution of resources creates a more competitive system with multiple centers of influence.

158. (D) Balancing economic engagement with a rising power while maintaining security ties to another.
Strategic hedging is a foreign policy approach where a state avoids choosing sides between rival powers. Instead, it balances economic engagement with one power while maintaining or strengthening security ties with another. This strategy is used to minimize risks and ensure national interests are protected regardless of which power dominates. It is an increasingly common behavior in a complex environment.

159. (A) It is the ability to shape the preferences of others through appeal and attraction.
Soft power is the ability of a state to influence others and shape their preferences through the appeal of its culture, political values, and policies. Unlike hard power, which uses coercion or payment, soft power relies on attraction and the perceived legitimacy of a nation's ideals. It remains a crucial component of modern diplomacy and a key way for states to gain influence.

160. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Regional integration occurs in stages, beginning with a free trade area that eliminates internal tariffs. A customs union adds a common external tariff. A common market further allows for the free movement of labor and capital. Finally, an economic union involves the harmonization of macroeconomic policies and the adoption of a common currency, as seen in parts of the European Union.

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145. (B) Eurocentrism / Western Hegemony
Eurocentrism and Western hegemony refer to the global dominance of Western political, economic, and cultural values, a phenomenon frequently critiqued by post-colonial theorists. This dominance is seen as having shaped international norms and institutions to reflect Western interests and perspectives. Understanding this critique is essential for analyzing the demands from the Global South for a more equitable and representative world order.

146. (A) Competition over the fundamental rules, norms, and structure of the world order.
Systemic rivalry in the contemporary world order involves deep-seated competition over the fundamental rules, norms, and structure of the international system. It goes beyond simple territorial or economic disputes, as rivals seek to promote different visions of global governance and political values. This form of competition is particularly visible in the ongoing strategic relationship between major powers like the US and China.

147. (C) A system lacking peer competitors with the capacity to challenge the hegemon.
Unipolarity is characterized by an international system where a single state possesses such overwhelming capabilities that it lacks any peer competitors. This dominance allows the hegemon to exercise significant influence over global rules and norms. While unipolarity does not mean total control over every event, it does imply a unique structural position where no other actor can independently balance against it.

148. (D) It is a geographical term that strictly includes only countries physically located in the Southern Hemisphere.
The term Global South is not a strictly geographical designation; it refers to developing or emerging economies that often share a history of colonialism and seek greater representation in global institutions. Many nations considered part of the Global South are physically located in the Northern Hemisphere. Countries like India and Brazil are leading voices in this group, advocating for more equitable frameworks.

149. (C) AUKUS - Security partnership involving Australia, UK, and US
AUKUS is a significant security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, focused on defense technology cooperation in the Indo-Pacific. Other pairings are incorrect: the Quad is a diplomatic and security dialogue among four democracies, NATO is a transatlantic defense alliance, and the Warsaw Pact was a Cold War-era alliance led by the Soviet Union.

150. (A) 1, 2, 4, and 5
Major powers are actively shaping the regional and global order through various strategies. Japan promotes a free and open Indo-Pacific, while the EU seeks to strengthen its defense capabilities via the Strategic Compass. India has notably shifted toward multi-alignment, and the US maintains its influence through an extensive alliance network. However, Russia's economy remains heavily dependent on energy exports rather than being diversified.

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151. (D) Splinternet - The unification of global internet protocols
The term splinternet refers to the fragmentation of the global internet into separate national or regional digital ecosystems, not its unification. Other concepts are accurately paired: the digital divide describes inequality in access, cyber espionage involves state-sponsored data theft, and information warfare utilizes disinformation to destabilize rivals. These technological issues are now central to national security and global power dynamics.

152. (A) Absolute state autarky
Globalization is characterized by de-territorialization, the compression of time and space, and increasing transnational flows of capital, labor, and information. These processes create a more integrated and interconnected world. In contrast, absolute state autarky—seeking total economic self-sufficiency and isolation—is the direct opposite of globalization and represents a rejection of the benefits and dependencies created by international integration.

global order, where technological innovations can be used to undermine democratic norms and individual liberties, presenting a significant challenge to human rights.

170. (A) 2, 4, 3, 1
The historical sequence of democratic transitions began with post-WWII decolonization in Africa and Asia. This was followed by the democratization of Southern Europe in the 1970s. The 1980s saw a significant wave of transitions across Latin America. Finally, the late 20th century was marked by the democratization of former Soviet-led states in Eastern Europe following the collapse of communism.

171. (D) The process of diminishing interdependence and integration between global units.
De-globalization is the process of diminishing the level of interdependence and integration between global units, such as nations and regions. It is characterized by a reduction in international trade, the re-introduction of protective barriers, and a shift toward domestic production. This trend can be driven by national security concerns, economic instability, or political movements that prioritize national sovereignty over integration.

172. (B) The Democratization-War hypothesis
The democratization-war hypothesis suggests that states undergoing the transition to democracy may experience a short-term increase in internal conflict or external aggression. This paradox occurs because the process of political opening can unleash nationalist sentiments or create institutional instability before a stable democratic system is fully consolidated. Once established, however, democracies are generally more peaceful in their relations with one another.

173. (C) It seeks to act as a "Net Security Provider" in the Indian Ocean Region.
India's contemporary foreign policy aims to establish the nation as a Net Security Provider in the Indian Ocean Region. This role involves taking a proactive lead in maritime security, disaster relief, and maintaining regional stability. By strengthening its naval capabilities and building partnerships, India seeks to protect vital sea lines and expand its strategic influence within a multipolar regional order.

174. (D) China's BRI is primarily aimed at philanthropic development with no strategic calculations.
China's Belt and Road Initiative is a strategic project designed to expand its global influence and secure vital supply routes, not a purely philanthropic development program. Other major powers also use specific tools: the US leverages the SWIFT system for financial pressure, Russia uses energy exports for political influence, and Japan utilizes its technological expertise to gain significant soft power.

175. (A) 1, 3, 4, and 5
The European Union exercises significant normative power through global regulatory standards and operates as the world's largest single market. Member states pool their sovereignty in several areas, though the union faces challenges from internal nationalist movements. Crucially, the EU does not have a single, integrated army that has replaced national militaries, as defense remains primarily national.

176. (B) Systemic Anarchy - Absence of a supreme global authority
Systemic anarchy is a foundational concept in international relations, referring to the absence of a supreme global authority above sovereign states. Other terms are often misunderstood: a balance of power requires multiple states, collective security involves states acting together, and cosmopolitanism emphasizes global citizenship rather than extreme nationalism. Understanding these definitions is essential for analyzing the structure of global politics.

177. (B) Samuel Huntington - Democratic Peace Theory
Samuel Huntington is most famously associated with the Clash of Civilizations thesis rather than Democratic Peace Theory, which is a central concept in liberal theory. Joseph Nye correctly introduced soft power, Kenneth Waltz is the leading figure in structural realism, and Alexander Wendt is the primary theorist of constructivism. Each has provided a fundamental framework for analyzing international relations.

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245. (C) It highlights the temporary nature of US dominance immediately post-Cold War.
The unipolar moment refers to the specific historical era immediately following the Cold War when the United States stood as the world's only superpower. This term highlights the temporary and unique nature of American dominance during that period. It was characterized by a lack of peer competitors and the significant influence of the US in shaping global rules and norms.

246. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
Neoclassical realism provides a nuanced explanation of state behavior by incorporating both the external structure of the international system and various domestic political factors. However, classical realism does not ignore human nature; in fact, it is fundamentally based on the idea that the drive for power is inherent in human nature, which in turn shapes the behavior of sovereign states.

247. (D) A demand for the democratization of global order and rules.
The refusal of developing nations to adopt restrictive intellectual property laws that hinder access to essential goods reflects a demand for the democratization of the global order. These states seek a system where international rules are more balanced and better serve the needs of the entire world, rather than just the interests of developed economies and transnational corporations.

248. (A) The creation of distinct, politically defined digital spheres hindering global trade.
Cyber balkanization, or the splinternet, leads to the creation of distinct and politically defined digital spheres that can significantly hinder global trade and communication. This fragmentation is driven by national regulations and censorship, as states seek to control their internal digital environments. While it may enhance a government's domestic control, it creates new barriers and challenges for a unified global network.

249. (C) A state seeking to change the international order and norms to align with its interests.
A revisionist power is a state that is dissatisfied with the current distribution of power and established international norms and seeks to change the system to better align with its own interests. These states often challenge the status quo through military buildup, economic pressure, or the creation of alternative institutions. Their actions can lead to significant tension and systemic instability.

250. (A) 1, 3, 4, and 5
The contemporary global order is defined by polycentrism, technological competition in fields like AI, and significant challenges from democratic backsliding. Transnational issues like climate change also require complex cooperative governance. However, the Thucydides Trap describes the potential for conflict between a rising power and a ruling one during a power transition, rather than the stability of a unipolar system.

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251. (B) A solitary state dictating norms and enforcing order
A unipolar system is fundamentally defined by the presence of a single, dominant state that possesses disproportionate military and economic power. This solitary hegemon takes the lead in establishing and dictating global norms, managing international alliances, and enforcing a specific world order. Such a system relies on the concentration of authority within one capital to maintain global stability.

252. (A) Increased diplomatic friction and fragmentation of institutional authority
The shift from a unipolar world to a multipolar system leads to significant changes in international dynamics. As power becomes more dispersed among several states with comparable capabilities, the traditional authority of global institutions often undergoes fragmentation. This transition typically results in increased diplomatic friction as multiple actors compete to influence global norms and secure their strategic national interests.

253. (C) By focusing on strategic autonomy and flexible alignments
In a multipolar environment, states must adapt to the dispersion of power by recalibrating their foreign policies to ensure survival and influence. This navigation involves prioritizing strategic autonomy and forming flexible alignments rather than relying on rigid, permanent alliances. By maintaining diplomatic flexibility, nations can

While historically pursued by some nations for security or ideological reasons, absolute autarky is difficult to achieve in a modern world characterized by complex global supply chains.

187. (D) It is the use of diplomacy to resolve issues related to international cyberspace.
Cyber diplomacy is the use of diplomatic tools and processes to resolve international issues specifically related to cyberspace. This includes negotiating norms of state behavior, addressing cybercrime, and managing the security of digital infrastructure. As cyber issues increasingly impact national security and the global order, cyber diplomacy has become a vital component of contemporary international relations and state engagement.

188. (B) It represents a homogenous bloc with identical economic and political interests.
The Global South is not a homogenous bloc; it consists of diverse nations with varying economic levels, political systems, and national interests. While these countries often cooperate in forums like BRICS and share a common goal of reforming global governance, their specific priorities can differ significantly. Understanding this diversity is crucial for analyzing the complex role of the Global South in contemporary politics.

189. (C) Climate Change - Polycentric governance challenge requiring global cooperation
Climate change is a quintessential global challenge that requires polycentric governance, involving cooperation among states, international organizations, and non-state actors. Other issues are also transnational: pandemics and cyber terrorism cannot be easily contained within national borders, and nuclear proliferation is a major systemic concern. These challenges highlight the limits of individual state power in an interconnected and complex world.

190. (A) 1, 2, and 3
Unipolarity is often defined by the absence of effective balancing, while bipolarity involves two clear spheres of influence. Multipolar systems are historically associated with greater uncertainty in alliance formation. However, polycentrism does not completely replace the nation-state; rather, it describes a more complex landscape where states must share authority and interact with multiple centers of power and authority.

191. (A) Constructivism - State behavior defined by historical materialism and class struggle
Constructivism focuses on the social construction of ideas and identities rather than historical materialism and class struggle, which are the core concerns of Marxist theory. Realism views the state as a rational, unitary actor, while liberalism sees it as an arena for competing domestic interests. Institutionalism emphasizes how international regimes constrain state behavior. These theories provide different lenses for understanding global politics.

192. (B) Guaranteeing the immediate economic supremacy of the democratizing state.
Democratization can promote peaceful conflict resolution, create more transparent foreign policy processes, and align a state with international human rights norms. These effects can significantly influence the global order. However, transitioning to democracy does not guarantee the immediate economic supremacy of a nation. Economic success depends on a wide range of factors beyond the specific type of domestic political system.

193. (B) A shift towards asymmetric multipolarity where the US remains the lead actor.
The current world order is best described as a shift toward asymmetric multipolarity. While the United States remains the most powerful lead actor with a unique global reach, other major powers such as China, India, and the European Union are increasingly influential. This system is more complex than simple bipolarity or unipolarity, featuring multiple centers of power with varying capabilities.

194. (A) Technological superiority historically correlates with global geopolitical dominance.
Historically, technological superiority has strongly correlated with global geopolitical dominance, as new innovations provide states with superior military and economic tools. Science and technology are not just domestic issues; they are fundamental to a nation's foreign policy and its standing in the international system. Understanding this relationship is

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These states seek to reform the current system, which they perceive as being dominated by Western powers and outdated structures. This push for reform often leads to significant tension with established powers that resist institutional change.

212. (D) The European Union's plan to strengthen its security and defense policy.
The Strategic Compass is a comprehensive plan adopted by the European Union to strengthen its security and defense policy over the next decade. It aims to enhance the EU's ability to act as a security provider, protect its citizens, and develop more robust military capabilities. This initiative reflects the EU's desire for greater strategic autonomy in an increasingly complex global environment.

213. (C) It is the condition of deep and pervasive interconnectedness.
Globality refers to a social condition characterized by deep and pervasive global economic, political, and cultural interconnectedness. It is often seen as the end-point toward which the process of globalization is moving. In a state of globality, traditional national borders become increasingly porous, and events in one part of the world have immediate and significant consequences for people everywhere.

214. (B) It endows the concept of globalization with specific norms and values.
Globalism is a multifaceted concept that exists in various forms, such as market and justice globalism. While it is often discussed in relation to norms and values, different perspectives provide varying interpretations of its core meaning. Understanding these diverse viewpoints is essential for analyzing how globalism is used as an ideological tool to shape the direction and outcomes of global integration.

215. (A) 1 and 2
The transition to polycentrism involves a more diffuse distribution of authority, which can diminish the absolute power of the traditional nation-state. Simultaneously, India and other emerging powers advocate for a multipolar regional and global order to ensure a more balanced system. However, the US has not officially abandoned its desire for global leadership, and the EU remains primarily an economic union.

216. (A) Sceptics - Emphasize the enduring power of the nation-state and regionalization
Sceptics of globalization argue that the nation-state remains the most powerful actor in international relations and that current trends reflect regionalization rather than true global integration. Other groups have different views: hyperglobalizers believe the state is becoming obsolete, while transformationalists see globalization as a real force reshaping politics. Marxists focus on the role of global capitalism and its resulting economic inequalities.

217. (C) Democratic Backsliding - The rapid expansion of democratic rights in a dictatorship
Democratic backsliding refers to the erosion of democratic rights and institutions, not their expansion. Other terms are correctly identified: the Third Wave began in the 1970s, and a democratic deficit describes a lack of accountability in international bodies. Illiberal democracy is a system that maintains elections but fails to protect civil liberties. These concepts are essential for analyzing the quality of modern democracy.

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218. (A) Restoring absolute control of information to sovereign governments.
The information revolution has empowered non-state actors, increased the speed of financial transactions, and created new domains of conflict such as cyberspace. These changes have fundamentally challenged the ability of sovereign governments to maintain absolute control over information. Instead, the rapid and diffuse nature of digital communication has made it more difficult for states to manage and censor information flows.

219. (D) Power Transition Theory
Power Transition Theory explains how the international system becomes unstable when a rising power's expanding interests and capabilities inevitably conflict with an established power's desire to maintain the status quo. This dynamic often leads to intense competition and a high risk of war. The theory focuses on the relative growth of states as the primary driver of systemic change and conflict.

203. (D) Demographic dividend - Economic/Latent power capability
A large and productive population, or a demographic dividend, is a primary source of economic and latent power for a state. It provides the foundation for industrial output and military recruitment. Other pairings are incorrect: nuclear weapons are a hard power tool, development assistance is often a form of soft or economic power, and cultural exports are a hallmark of soft power.

204. (B) States retain the absolute right to define citizenship and border security.
Globalization challenges state sovereignty by making domestic policies vulnerable to global financial markets and international legal norms. Transnational NGOs also play an increasing role in influencing internal state affairs. However, states still retain the absolute sovereign right to define their own citizenship and manage their border security. These remain core functions of the nation-state even in a deeply interconnected global system.

205. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The World Health Organization exemplifies polycentric governance by coordinating global responses to health crises through interactions with a wide range of actors. These include not only sovereign states but also private foundations, non-governmental organizations, and pharmaceutical companies. This collaborative approach recognizes that modern health challenges are too complex for any single state to manage, necessitating a diffuse and inclusive response.

206. (D) The EU's ability to set global standards adopted by multinational companies.
The Brussels Effect refers to the European Union's unique ability to set global regulatory standards that are adopted by multinational companies worldwide. Because the EU is such a large and lucrative market, firms often find it more efficient to comply with its strict rules globally rather than maintaining different standards for different regions. This gives the EU significant normative and economic power.

207. (A) The utility of military force is reduced due to the high costs of severing ties.
Under the theory of complex interdependence, the utility of military force is significantly reduced when two states are deeply economically integrated. The high costs of severing these ties and the potential for mutual economic ruin act as a powerful deterrent against direct armed conflict. This perspective highlights how economic and social connections can reshape the traditional security priorities of sovereign states.

208. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
Bipolar systems are historically characterized by rigid alliance structures and the frequent use of proxy wars as superpowers compete for influence. However, the Cold War era was the defining period of bipolarity, not multipolarity. Multipolar systems feature three or more major powers and are more common in other historical periods, such as 19th-century Europe under the Concert of Europe.

209. (B) Geoeconomics / Economic Statecraft
Attempting to assert dominance by monopolizing the supply of essential raw materials is a clear application of geoeconomics or economic statecraft. In this strategy, a state uses its economic power and control over critical resources to achieve geopolitical goals and influence the behavior of other actors. This approach reflects the increasing importance of supply chain security in modern global strategic competition.

210. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
Key scholars have defined major theoretical frameworks in international relations. Robert Keohane is a leading figure in neoliberal institutionalism, while John Mearsheimer is the primary proponent of offensive realism. Alexander Wendt famously argued that anarchy is what states make of it within the constructivist tradition. Samuel Huntington is known for his thesis on the Clash of Civilizations in the post-Cold War.

211. (C) The demand by developing states for equitable representation in institutions.
The primary cause of friction in the democratization of the world order is the demand by developing nations for more equitable representation in international institutions.

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essential for analyzing how shifts in innovation can lead to global power transitions.

195. (A) 1, 2, 3, and 5
Semiconductors are a major point of strategic competition, and the weaponization of AI presents significant stability risks. Cyber capabilities can offer asymmetric advantages to smaller states, and space exploration is increasingly influenced by commercial actors. However, international law is still struggling to keep pace with these developments, and many legal ambiguities regarding cyber warfare and technological conflict remain unresolved.

196. (B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
Globality refers to the social condition of being globally interconnected, while globalism is the ideological framework used to interpret and promote the process of globalization. Both statements provided in the question have exchanged these definitions. Recognizing the distinction between an ideological lens and a resulting social condition is fundamental for a clear analysis of the various dimensions of our modern world.

197. (C) The Attribution Problem
The difficulty of identifying the true source of a cyber-attack, often due to the use of complex relays and proxies, is known as the Attribution Problem. This issue is a primary challenge in cyber warfare, as it complicates the ability of states to respond or deter future attacks. Without clear attribution, traditional concepts of accountability and retaliation are extremely difficult to apply.

198. (B) The diffusion of economic power and the rise of non-state global entities.
The rise of polycentrism is primarily caused by the diffusion of economic power among a wider variety of nations and the growing influence of non-state global entities. This shift away from a single or dual center of power reflects the increasing complexity of international relations, where authority is shared across multiple overlapping centers, including regional bodies, multinational corporations, and NGOs.

199. (D) The severing of tech integration between nations due to security concerns.
Technological decoupling is the deliberate process of severing or reducing the level of technological integration between nations, often driven by national security concerns. This can involve restricting exports of critical hardware, banning specific software, or creating separate supply chains for sensitive technologies. Decoupling represents a significant shift away from global integration, reflecting increased strategic competition and mistrust between powers.

200. (A) 1, 3, 4, and 5
Democratic Peace Theory argues that democracies rarely fight each other, a concept rooted in Immanuel Kant's philosophical work. This peace is attributed to institutional constraints and shared norms. While it has heavily influenced liberal foreign policy, the theory does not claim that democracies never go to war with non-democracies. In fact, democracies have frequently engaged in conflicts with authoritarian regimes.

201. (C) They rely on a complex network of formal institutions, treaties, and informal regimes.
Global governance mechanisms rely on a complex and often informal network of formal institutions, international treaties, and shared regimes to manage global affairs. They do not possess a central military force and are heavily influenced by the interests of major powers. By providing a framework for cooperation, these mechanisms help states and other actors address transnational issues in an anarchic system.

202. (A) It implies a diffusion of power among several major states.
While multipolarity is often associated with a diffusion of power, some theoretical perspectives might challenge this simple characterization within specific contexts. Multipolar systems feature several major powers and are known for their fluid alliances and complex balancing dynamics. Historical examples, such as the Concert of Europe, illustrate how these systems function through the interactions of multiple dominant states rather than simple diffusion.

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220. (A) 2, 1, 3, 4
The development of major global institutions began with the Concert of Europe in 1815. This was followed by the establishment of the League of Nations after World War I. The United Nations was then created in 1945 to maintain international peace and security. Finally, the World Trade Organization was established in 1995 to regulate and facilitate international trade among nations.

221. (C) An assertive, nationalistic approach to defending state interests abroad.
The adoption of Wolf Warrior diplomacy indicates a significant shift toward a more assertive and nationalistic approach to defending a state's interests on the international stage. This style of communication is characterized by a willingness to confront critics and use forceful language to project strength. It reflects a growing confidence and a desire to challenge perceived external interference in domestic affairs.

222. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
Unipolarity is a systemic structure that requires the hegemon to possess overwhelming military, economic, and structural dominance over all other actors. However, the post-Cold War world was not immediately multipolar; it was widely characterized as a unipolar moment dominated by the United States. Multipolarity is a more recent and emerging trend as other powers have narrowed the capability gap.

223. (A) Technology compressing decision-making timeframes and undermining stability.
The use of artificial intelligence in military targeting can drastically compress decision-making timeframes, potentially leading to rapid and unintended flash wars. This acceleration undermines strategic stability by leaving little room for human intervention or diplomatic resolution during a crisis. It highlights how technological advancements can create new and unpredictable risks for international security and the management of global conflicts in the modern era.

224. (B) The realization that controlling critical technologies is essential for power.
Techno-nationalism is primarily driven by the realization among states that controlling critical and emerging technologies is essential for maintaining national security and economic power. In an increasingly digital world, technological leadership is viewed as a vital instrument of geopolitical influence. This belief leads governments to intervene in tech sectors, protect domestic innovations, and restrict the export of sensitive technologies.

225. (A) 1, 3, and 4
The Global South advocates for the democratization of international financial institutions and frequently utilizes South-South cooperation frameworks to pursue common interests. It also seeks more equitable global frameworks for addressing climate change. However, it is not a unified military alliance against NATO and includes nations from across Africa, Asia, and Latin America rather than being limited to a single region.

226. (A) The intersection of technological innovation and international power competition.
The geopolitics of technology examines the intersection of technological innovation and international power competition. It explores how the development, control, and distribution of critical technologies—such as AI, semiconductors, and energy systems—shape the strategic interests and relative standing of sovereign states. In the contemporary world order, technological leadership has become a primary arena for asserting influence and ensuring security.

227. (C) The concept of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) contributed to strategic stability between the two poles.
During the Cold War, the concept of Mutually Assured Destruction significantly contributed to strategic stability by ensuring that any direct nuclear exchange would lead to the total destruction of both superpowers. This deterrence prevented direct military engagement in Europe, although the era was marked by numerous proxy conflicts. Bipolarity organized the world into two competing blocs, defining international relations.

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228. (D) The "G4 nations" (Brazil, Germany, India, Japan) actively oppose expanding the UNSC.
The G4 nations—Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan—are actually primary advocates for

178. (A) Control of global sea lanes via traditional dreadnought battleships
Modern technological power is derived from dominance in fields such as artificial intelligence, semiconductor manufacturing, and satellite capabilities. These areas are central to contemporary geopolitical competition and military strength. In contrast, traditional dreadnought battleships are obsolete relics from the early 20th century and no longer represent a significant or effective form of power in the modern, digitally-driven international system.

179. (C) A state with capabilities to shape systemic outcomes and defend itself independently.
A polar power is a state with sufficient capabilities to shape systemic outcomes and defend its own interests independently within the international order. These powers act as the poles around which other states align or balance. In a bipolar system, there are two such poles, while a multipolar system features several. Their actions and interactions largely determine the overall stability.

180. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalization has fundamentally challenged the traditional Westphalian concept of state sovereignty. Because many modern problems, such as climate change and global financial crises, are transnational in nature, individual states cannot resolve them alone. This necessity for cooperation leads to the development of polycentric governance, where states must share authority with various international organizations to effectively manage challenges.

181. (C) It is an ideology that endows globalization with values such as free markets.
Globalism is an ideological framework that endows the process of globalization with specific values, most commonly those of free-market neoliberalism. It is more than just a descriptive term for trade; it is a belief system that advocates for a particular type of global integration. Understanding globalism is essential for analyzing the different visions and priorities that compete to shape the world.

182. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
Wolf Warrior diplomacy refers to the assertive and often confrontational communication style adopted by Chinese diplomats in recent years. This approach is intended to defend China's national interests and project strength on the global stage, rather than to appease Western nations. It represents a significant shift in China's diplomatic posture, reflecting its growing confidence and status as a major power.

183. (D) Offset demographic decline to maintain structural power in the global order.
Investing in robotics and AI to maintain economic output despite an aging population is a strategic use of technology to offset demographic decline. By enhancing productivity through automation, a state can preserve its structural power and remain competitive in the global order. This approach demonstrates how technological innovation can be used as a vital tool for addressing long-term geopolitical challenges.

184. (A) An increase in balancing behavior, shifting alliances, and regional competition.
The transition from a unipolar to a multipolar world order is primarily caused by an increase in balancing behavior, shifting alliances, and heightened regional competition. As other states gain power, they seek to limit the influence of the dominant hegemon and assert their own interests. This dynamic leads to a more diffuse distribution of authority and a more complex international environment.

185. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Major powers pursue distinct foreign policy objectives. The United States focuses on managing systemic competition within a rules-based order, while China seeks national rejuvenation and a more favorable global governance structure. Japan emphasizes a free and open Indo-Pacific to counter regional coercion. India prioritizes strategic autonomy and multi-alignment to navigate the interests of various rival power blocs.

186. (A) Autarky
Autarky is an economic strategy where a state seeks to be entirely self-sufficient, producing all necessary goods domestically to avoid dependence on foreign trade. This approach is the opposite of interdependence and globalization.

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is increasingly tied to digital capabilities, this divide can reinforce and exacerbate existing global power imbalances.

237. (C) The ability to define what passes for "normal" in world politics via values.
Normative power is the ability of an actor to define what is considered normal or acceptable behavior in international relations through the promotion of specific values and principles. This form of influence relies on the appeal and perceived legitimacy of ideas rather than military or economic coercion. It is a key tool for shaping global norms and influencing long-term international outcomes.

238. (D) It recognizes that global governance occurs through multiple overlapping centers.
Polycentrism recognizes that global governance occurs through multiple, often overlapping centers of authority rather than being concentrated in a single state or pair of superpowers. This diffuse system involves sovereign states alongside a wide variety of influential non-state actors, such as international organizations and regional bodies. It reflects the increasing complexity and interconnectedness of the modern international political and economic landscape.

239. (A) India formally alliances with Russia against Western powers.
India does not formally alliance with Russia against Western powers; instead, it pursues a strategy of multi-alignment and strategic autonomy, maintaining relationships with multiple global actors. Other statements accurately describe major powers: the US has a formidable blue-water navy, China is a systemic rival due to its economic rise, and Japan faces significant challenges from a rapidly aging demographic profile.

240. (A) 1, 2, and 3
The transition from bipolarity to unipolarity occurred rapidly following the collapse of the Soviet Union. Today, the shift toward multipolarity is driven by the economic growth of non-Western powers, while polycentrism creates an even more complex governance landscape. Crucially, transitions in the world order are historically associated with significant geopolitical friction and competition rather than being entirely peaceful processes.

241. (B) AI Arms Race - Competition to develop autonomous weapon systems
An AI arms race describes the intense competition between major powers to develop and deploy advanced autonomous weapon systems and other military applications of artificial intelligence. Other pairings are incorrect: the splinternet refers to fragmentation rather than a unified network, cyber sovereignty involves state control over internal data, and net neutrality is the principle of equal treatment for all internet traffic.

242. (A) Arab Spring - Universal establishment of stable democracies in the Middle East
The Arab Spring did not lead to the universal establishment of stable democracies; instead, many of the uprisings resulted in civil wars or a return to authoritarianism. Other concepts are accurately paired: the third wave began in the 1970s, a democratic deficit refers to accountability issues, and the end of history thesis views liberal democracy as the final ideological stage.

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243. (C) Enhanced capacity to completely isolate domestic economies without consequence.
Globalization has diluted absolute state sovereignty by increasing vulnerability to financial crises and necessitating participation in multilateral governance to address transnational issues. These trends reflect a more integrated world. However, globalization does not enhance a state's capacity to completely isolate its domestic economy without consequence; in fact, such isolationist policies are now more difficult and economically damaging than ever before.

244. (D) Weaponized Interdependence
Weaponized interdependence is a strategy where a state uses its control over key hubs of economic activity, such as critical supply chains or financial networks, to coerce other actors. This approach exploits the deep connections created by globalization for geopolitical advantage. By leveraging these dependencies, a powerful state can influence the political and security decisions of others without resorting to force.

expanding the United Nations Security Council and seeking permanent seats for themselves. They argue that the current structure is outdated and does not reflect the modern distribution of global power. Any such reform, however, would require a significant and difficult process of amending the United Nations Charter itself.

229. (C) Non-State Actors - Multinational Corporations and NGOs
Polycentric governance involves a wide variety of actors beyond just sovereign states. Non-state actors, such as transnational corporations and non-governmental organizations, play a significant role in shaping global policies and international norms. Other actors are also involved: intergovernmental organizations consist of member states, while supranational entities like the EU have authority over their members. Sub-national actors include local governments.

230. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Global democratization has indeed faced a period of recession or backsliding in the early 21st century. This trend is largely driven by the rise of populist movements and the systematic consolidation of power by executive leaders, which have weakened democratic institutions in several countries. These internal shifts challenge the long-standing assumption of a steady and inevitable global progression toward liberal democracy.

231. (D) A conflict where weaker parties use unconventional tactics against stronger ones.
Asymmetric warfare describes a conflict where weaker parties use unconventional tactics and strategies to exploit the vulnerabilities of a much stronger adversary. This can include guerrilla warfare, terrorism, or cyber-attacks that avoid direct confrontation with the opponent's superior conventional forces. In the modern global order, asymmetric threats have become increasingly common, presenting significant challenges for traditional military and security strategies.

232. (A) The extent to which international institutions reflect equitable representation.
To analyze the democratization of the world order, a scholar must assess the extent to which international institutions and global rules reflect equitable representation for all nations. This involves evaluating whether developing states have a meaningful voice in decision-making processes. A more democratic order would involve a more inclusive and balanced distribution of influence across the entire international community.

233. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
Space militarization involves the development and placement of military systems in outer space, a trend that is increasingly real in the contemporary world. However, the 1967 Outer Space Treaty does not prohibit the use of satellites for military reconnaissance and communication; it primarily bans the placement of weapons of mass destruction in orbit. Space remains a critical and contested domain.

234. (A) Techno-nationalism and Export Controls
Restricting the export of advanced technological equipment to a rival nation for security reasons is a clear application of techno-nationalism and strategic export controls. This policy treats technological leadership as a vital component of national security. By limiting an adversary's access to critical innovations, a state seeks to maintain its own strategic advantage and protect its domestic industries in the global order.

235. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Globalization manifests in several distinct forms with specific indicators. Economic globalization is seen in the proliferation of trade agreements, while political globalization involves the growth of intergovernmental organizations. Cultural globalization is characterized by the global spread of languages and products. Technological globalization is driven by the expansion of digital infrastructure, such as global fiber-optic networks and high-speed internet connectivity.

236. (B) Disparities in economic development and infrastructure investment between nations.
The digital divide is primarily caused by significant disparities in economic development and infrastructure investment between different nations and regions. These inequalities limit access to modern communication technologies and the digital literacy required to use them effectively. In a world where economic influence

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better protect their interests within a landscape characterized by complex coalition-building and balancing.

254. (D) Power is dispersed across various regional hubs and states
Under a multipolar world order, the distribution of global power undergoes a structural shift away from a single dominant center. Instead of authority being concentrated in one capital, it is dispersed across various regional hubs and multiple states with significant capabilities. This dispersion requires constant negotiation and strategic balancing among several influential actors to maintain international systemic stability.

255. (C) A competitive yet interdependent framework
As the unipolar order declines, the stability previously ensured by a single hegemon is replaced by a more complex structural dynamic. This new framework is characterized by intense competition among emerging powers, yet it remains fundamentally interdependent. States must manage this competitive environment through strategic cooperation and coalition-building to ensure the functionality of global governance and institutional authority.

256. (B) By compelling nations to align with one of two competing superpowers
A bipolar framework structures international relations by dividing the global landscape into two primary spheres of influence controlled by dominant superpowers. This arrangement forces other nations to align themselves with one of the two competing blocs, significantly limiting their diplomatic autonomy. Consequently, global interactions are dictated by the rivalry between these two poles, shaping all major geopolitical engagements.

257. (D) A zero-sum environment of relative gains
Bipolarity fosters a strategic environment characterized by a zero-sum mentality regarding global power and influence. In this framework, any gain in security or status by one superpower is automatically viewed as a direct loss for its rival. This intense competition necessitates strict adherence to alliance commitments and creates a rigid system where every strategic move impacts the overall balance.

258. (A) They are issue-based without rigid formations
In a polycentric world order, strategic alliances are defined by their fluidity and focus on specific global or regional issues. Unlike the rigid ideological blocs seen in bipolar systems, these coalitions are often temporary and based on shared interests rather than fixed doctrines. This approach allows states to engage in multifaceted diplomacy and pursue diverse partnerships across various international platforms.

259. (C) As autonomous nodes leveraging advantages
Nations operating within a polycentric structure function as autonomous nodes of influence by leveraging their unique geographic and economic advantages. This role allows them to move away from strict alliance commitments and instead engage in independent diplomatic actions. By acting as autonomous centers, these states contribute to a world order where power is distributed across multiple diverse and influential actors.

260. (A) It requires negotiation among diverse actors
Polycentrism complicates the management of global governance by distributing authority among a wide array of influential actors rather than centralizing it. This distribution necessitates continuous and complex negotiations to reach consensus on international issues. Because power is no longer concentrated, the process of shaping world order requires constant diplomatic engagement to address the diverse interests of multiple independent states.

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261. (D) As the primary architect projecting influence to maintain stability
The United States has historically occupied a central role in the international system as the primary architect of global institutions. By projecting its significant military and economic influence, it has sought to maintain systemic stability and uphold established global norms. This positioning allowed the nation to shape the structural dynamics of global governance according to its own strategic interests.

262. (B) China's rapid economic expansion and strategic assertiveness
The established global framework faces a significant structural challenge due to the rapid economic growth and increasing strategic

integration is coupled with decentralized and competitive political authority. While globalisation binds the international system together materially through markets and technology, polycentrism fragments it politically by creating multiple independent power centers. This duality results in a global landscape where cooperation and competition exist simultaneously across diverse nodes.

296. (D) They empower movements or centralize control
Advanced communication networks serve as dual-use mechanisms because they can either empower grassroots democratic movements or centralize state control. While these technologies facilitate the rapid mobilization and sharing of information necessary for democratisation, they also provide tools for mass surveillance and public discourse manipulation. This ambivalence determines whether digital infrastructure will be used to foster transparency or reinforce authoritarian power structures.

297. (A) By their ability to control the flow of digital information
The structural power of states is increasingly measured by their ability to control the flow of digital information within the international system. This capacity allows nations to influence public discourse, protect their own cyber infrastructure, and exert pressure on rivals. Consequently, technological competence has become a primary metric of geopolitical strength, often as important as traditional military or economic capabilities in the world.

298. (B) It directly challenges and suppresses them
When states utilize technological infrastructure for mass surveillance, they directly challenge and suppress established democratic norms. This use of technology centralizes control and restricts the free flow of information, which is essential for transparent governance and popular representation. Such actions undermine the process of democratisation and create a global environment where technological power is used to reinforce existing authoritarian structures.

299. (B) By capacities to foster or suppress democracy
The global system is divided not only by traditional geographic or economic boundaries but also by the technological capacities of states to foster or suppress democracy. This division reflects the varying ways nations utilize digital infrastructure to either promote transparent governance or conduct surveillance. Consequently, the ability to manage information flows has become a central factor in the modern distribution of power.

300. (A) They shape the normative foundation of future global governance
Competition among major powers to establish regulatory standards for emerging technologies ultimately shapes the normative foundation of future global governance. These standards determine whether international systems will lean toward transparent democratic cooperation or technologically enabled authoritarianism. By setting these rules, powerful states influence the long-term trajectory of the world order and define the parameters of legitimate conduct in the digital age.

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These roles reflect the broader struggle between traditional security paradigms and institutional cooperation, highlighting the multifaceted nature of power in the contemporary world order.

271. (C) By strengthening its maritime capabilities and diplomatic outreach
Japan is recalibrating its traditional international posture by taking a more proactive role in ensuring regional stability. This shift involves strengthening its maritime capabilities and expanding its diplomatic outreach to address changes in its strategic environment. By leveraging its technological and economic strength, the nation aims to maintain a balance of power and counteract rapid structural shifts in its immediate vicinity.

272. (B) Participating in rigid alliance structures
In its pursuit of strategic autonomy, India consciously avoids participating in rigid, permanent alliance structures that might limit its diplomatic freedom. Instead, it focuses on building multi-directional partnerships that allow for flexible engagement with various global powers. This approach enables the nation to leverage its geographic position and growing market while maintaining its independence in the evolving international world order.

273. (D) To strive for strategic autonomy
A primary goal for India in establishing multi-directional partnerships is the achievement and maintenance of strategic autonomy. By forging diverse relationships across the global landscape, the nation avoids becoming overly dependent on any single power or alliance. This strategy allows India to pursue its national interests while contributing to a balanced, multipolar world order as an independent and influential actor.

274. (A) Collaborative initiatives and investments
India and Japan utilize collaborative diplomatic initiatives and infrastructure investments as essential mechanisms to maintain regional stability. These joint efforts are designed to prevent any single state from achieving hegemonic dominance over the regional order. Through these partnerships, both nations work to ensure that power remains distributed, supporting a multipolar equilibrium that reflects the changing patterns of global governance.

275. (C) How powers use alignment to shape governance
The strategic actions of India and Japan exemplify how emerging major powers can use flexible alignments to influence global governance. By combining economic prowess with proactive diplomacy and maritime strength, these nations shape the distribution of power within the international system. Their roles highlight the importance of strategic collaboration in maintaining a multipolar equilibrium and preventing the rise of a regional hegemon.

276. (A) As an ongoing process accelerating interconnectedness across borders
Globalisation is defined as a dynamic and continuous process that increases the interconnectedness of economies, societies, and political systems. It acts as the primary mechanism for integrating global markets and communication networks across traditional territorial borders. This ongoing movement facilitates the rapid exchange of information and capital, fundamentally reshaping how different regions and states interact with one another in the modern world.

277. (D) Globality
Globality describes the ultimate social condition or state of being that results from the long-term process of globalisation. In this state, geographic boundaries become increasingly irrelevant to human interactions and awareness. It represents a reality where the distinction between domestic and international events disappears, as occurrences in one part of the world have an instantaneous and profound impact on others.

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278. (B) It is an ideological framework that promotes a globally interconnected system
Globalism is distinguished as an ideological framework or policy paradigm that actively promotes a globally interconnected system. Unlike the process of globalisation or the condition of globality, it focuses on prioritizing transnational networks over the interests of individual sovereign states. This ideology drives the implementation of policies intended to dismantle barriers and facilitate the integration of different national political and economic systems.

279. (C) Dismantling barriers to facilitate integration
When a state implements globalism, it adopts policies specifically designed to dismantle trade barriers and facilitate international integration. This ideological approach prioritizes the growth of transnational networks and market connectivity over strictly national or sovereign interests. By removing these obstacles, the state actively drives the process of globalisation, leading toward a condition where domestic and international economic realities eventually merge together.

280. (D) Realities become indistinguishable
Achieving the condition of globality results in a reality where domestic and international economic situations are indistinguishable from one another. In this state, the integration of markets and communication networks is so complete that geographic borders no longer isolate a nation's internal affairs. This condition represents the culmination of the globalisation process, where global interconnectedness becomes the fundamental basis of social existence.

281. (A) A shift toward popular representation
At a systemic level, democratisation fundamentally involves the transition of governance structures toward models characterized by popular representation and institutional transparency. This process prioritizes the rule of law and the participation of citizens in the political system. By shifting away from authoritarian control, it establishes new normative standards for legitimate conduct, which in turn influences the broader structure of the world order.

282. (B) By favoring multilateral diplomacy and economic interdependence
Newly democratised states typically alter international behavioral patterns by showing a strong preference for multilateral diplomacy and economic interdependence. These nations often seek active participation in international institutions to reinforce their democratic transitions and secure their place in the global order. By favoring cooperative frameworks, they contribute to the development of a more interconnected and norm-based international system among various states.

283. (B) By adjusting their strategic calculus
When faced with a regional wave of democratisation, established authoritarian regimes often respond by adjusting their strategic calculus to protect their power. They perceive the spread of representative governance as a direct ideological threat to their own stability and legitimacy. These adjustments may involve internal crackdowns or shifts in foreign policy designed to counteract the influence of democratic norms in their vicinity.

284. (A) Representative states are less likely to fight
The theory that democratisation fosters a cooperative international environment is based on the premise that representative states are less likely to fight one another. Nations sharing democratic models tend to resolve disputes through diplomacy and institutional engagement rather than armed conflict. This shared identity and reliance on the rule of law create a more stable and peaceful global governance framework.

285. (C) Instability and reverberating domestic unrest
The transitional phases of democratisation can introduce significant instability and domestic unrest that reverberates throughout global networks. As societies shift between different governance models, the resulting political volatility can disrupt regional balances of power and economic integration. These internal struggles often have widespread consequences, affecting international alliance formations and the overall stability of the contemporary world order during the transition.

286. (D) National security and geopolitical influence
In the contemporary international system, technological innovation has become a fundamental pillar of national security and geopolitical influence. States view advanced scientific research and cyber capabilities as essential tools for protecting their interests and exerting power on the global stage. Beyond economic benefits, technology serves as a primary metric for determining a nation's strategic advantage and its position within the hierarchy.

287. (C) They are positioned to dictate normative and regulatory frameworks
States that achieve dominance in advanced scientific research and artificial intelligence are

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uniquely positioned to dictate the normative and regulatory frameworks of the world order. This technological lead allows them to shape the rules governing emerging digital spaces and international conduct. Consequently, these nations exert significant influence over how technology is integrated into global governance, reinforcing their structural power and authority.

288. (B) By using monopolistic control to exert coercive diplomatic pressure
A nation may weaponise technological dependence by using its monopolistic control over critical digital infrastructure to exert coercive diplomatic pressure on other states. Reliant nations find their strategic choices limited when a single power controls the essential technology they need for security or economic function. This capacity to use technology as leverage fundamentally alters traditional diplomacy and the distribution of power.

289. (D) It shifts the focus from purely military or economic metrics
Technological supremacy alters the traditional calculations of state power by shifting the primary focus away from purely military or economic metrics. While traditional power indicators remain relevant, the ability to control and innovate advanced technologies becomes a critical determinant of geopolitical influence. States must now prioritize technological advancement to maintain their structural position and protect themselves from coercion in the digital age.

290. (A) It creates exploitable governance vacuums
When technological advancement outpaces the regulatory capacity of international institutions, it creates exploitable governance vacuums. Powerful states often take advantage of these gaps to establish their own rules or gain a strategic lead without institutional oversight. This lack of regulation can lead to intense competition as nations race to dominate emerging fields like artificial intelligence before global standards can be established.

291. (C) It inherently disperses them across multiple regions
Globalisation inherently disperses economic resources across multiple regions by accelerating the integration of transnational markets and communication networks. This process breaks the concentration of wealth previously held by traditional core powers, allowing for a more widespread distribution of capital. Consequently, the material foundations of power become decentralized, enabling diverse actors in various parts of the world to participate in the global economy.

292. (A) By allowing numerous independent nodes of authority to emerge
The dispersal of resources acts as a catalyst for polycentrism by allowing numerous independent nodes of authority to emerge. As economic power spreads, traditional centers of control lose their ability to dictate terms unilaterally. This shift encourages the rise of regional blocs and other non-state actors that can operate as autonomous centers of influence, challenging the established hierarchy of the world order.

293. (D) Multinational corporations and regional blocs
Multinational corporations and regional blocs leverage the interconnectedness provided by globalisation to operate as autonomous centers of influence. These actors use their economic resources and communication networks to shape global policy and contest regulatory control. In a polycentric system, their ability to act independently of traditional state structures complicates global governance and forces a shift toward more decentralized decision-making processes.

294. (B) It requires negotiation among fluid centers
A major consequence of polycentrism is that global policy can no longer be dictated unilaterally by a single hegemonic state. Instead, the formulation of international standards and rules requires continuous negotiation among multiple, fluid centers of power. This decentralization of authority necessitates a cooperative approach where diverse actors must reach consensus, making global governance a more complex and competitive process.

295. (C) Integration coupled with decentralized authority
Analysts characterize the modern world order as a paradoxical system where intense economic

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assertiveness of China. This expansion allows China to translate its newfound wealth into enhanced military capabilities and greater regional influence. Consequently, this shift creates systemic competition as the existing order must account for a rising power seeking to redefine international rules.

263. (C) Reshape global rules to reflect its interests
China actively seeks to modify the existing rules of global governance to ensure they better reflect its own national interests and strategic objectives. By utilizing its expanding economic resources and military strength, it aims to create a more equitable distribution of global authority. This effort involves challenging the traditional norms established by the primary architects of the current international system.

264. (D) It forces them to navigate an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape
The intense systemic competition between the United States and China creates a highly complex geopolitical landscape that impacts all other nations. These states are forced to navigate through continuous strategic friction and competing interests while attempting to maintain their own security and economic stability. This rivalry defines the current trajectory of global governance and influences the diplomatic choices of every state.

265. (A) The continuous strategic friction between the US and China
Modern diplomatic engagement is primarily defined by the ongoing strategic friction and competition between the United States and China. This bilateral dynamic sets the parameters for international relations, forcing other actors to adjust their foreign policies in response to the actions of these major powers. The continuous tension between these two nations shapes the overarching structures and future of global governance.

266. (B) Leveraging military capabilities within traditional security paradigms
Russia functions as a major global power by focusing on traditional security paradigms and the projection of hard power. It leverages its significant military capabilities, energy resources, and historical influence over specific regions to assert its international status. This strategy prioritizes territorial integrity and seeks to counteract any perceived encroachments by Western alliances through direct and assertive geopolitical maneuvers.

267. (B) By projecting normative and economic influence as soft power
The European Union exerts its influence as a major power through the projection of normative and economic strength, often referred to as soft power. Its primary strategy involves promoting multilateralism, establishing high regulatory standards, and fostering deep economic integration. By building institutional partnerships, it seeks to shape the global order and stabilize its periphery through cooperation rather than military force.

268. (A) Strategic friction stemming from fundamentally divergent approaches
When the hard-power strategy of Russia interacts with the soft-power approach of the European Union, the result is often significant strategic friction. These two powers possess fundamentally different methodologies for achieving regional and global influence. While one emphasizes military leverage and territorial spheres, the other relies on institutional expansion, leading to constant tension over the future of international security architectures.

269. (C) Through reliance on institutional expansion
The European Union strives to stabilize its surrounding regions primarily through institutional expansion and the creation of strong economic partnerships. This approach focuses on integrating neighboring states into its regulatory and normative framework to foster long-term stability and cooperation. By emphasizing these civilian power tools, the organization aims to promote a secure environment without relying on traditional military paradigms or force.

270. (D) The complex roles powers play in challenging or reinforcing stability
The contrasting strategies of Russia and the European Union demonstrate the complex roles major powers play in the international system. Their interactions illustrate how different states can simultaneously challenge or reinforce global stability through divergent methodologies.

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CHAPTER 04

Conflict, Security and Peace: National and International

1. Which of the following best defines the concept of 'National Security' in the traditional sense?
(A) Comprehensive protection of citizens from various environmental hazards and natural disasters
(B) Safeguarding territorial integrity against external military threats
(C) Promoting long-term economic equality and sustainable wealth distribution among citizens
(D) Coordinated global efforts toward eradicating infectious diseases and public health crises

2. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The traditional model of international security is state-centric and focuses primarily on military power.
Statement II: Human security focuses entirely on the protection of state borders rather than individual well-being.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

3. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Scholars)
P. Barry Buzan
Q. Kenneth Waltz
R. Kautilya
S. Carl von Clausewitz
List II: (Concepts/Works)
1. Mandala Theory
2. Securitization Theory
3. Neorealism
4. On War
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2

4. Which of the following is NOT a core component of the Copenhagen School's securitization framework?
(A) Identification of a referent object
(B) Presence of a securitizing actor
(C) Role of various functional actors
(D) Absolute biological determinism

5. If a nation focuses its security policy on securing energy routes and diversifying its oil suppliers during peacetime, this policy is an application of which security model?
(A) Purely Traditional Military Security
(B) Mutually Assured Destruction
(C) Comprehensive Security
(D) Collective Defense

6. Which of the following statements regarding the 'Security Dilemma' is incorrect?
(A) It arises in an anarchic international system
(B) It always guarantees permanent peace between rival nations
(C) Defensive actions by one state are perceived as threatening by another
(D) It often leads to arms races

7. The concept of 'Collective Security' is the foundational principle of which international organization?
(A) World Trade Organization (WTO) and its predecessors
(B) International Monetary Fund (IMF) and

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World Bank
(C) World Health Organization (WHO) and global health bodies
(D) League of Nations and the United Nations

8. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): National security is no longer confined merely to military defense against external threats.
Reason (R): Globalization has introduced non-traditional threats like cyber-attacks, pandemics, and climate change that transcend national borders.
In the light of the above, choose the correct answer:
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

9. What is the primary cause of a 'security complex' as defined by regional security complex theory?
(A) High levels of institutionalized economic integration among geographically distant states
(B) The implementation of universal global disarmament treaties and arms control
(C) Security interdependence among states in a specific geographic region
(D) The systemic rise of unipolarity and dominance in contemporary global politics

10. Identify the correct pair of a strategic thinker and their primary conceptual focus:
(A) A.T. Mahan - Sea Power
(B) Sun Tzu - Center of Gravity
(C) Kautilya - Air Power
(D) H. Mackinder - Space Warfare

11. Which of the following is an exception to the elements of state power as traditionally defined in geopolitics?
(A) Geography
(B) Natural Resources
(C) Industrial Capacity
(D) Individual spiritual beliefs

12. A state signs a mutual defense pact with its neighbors to deter a rising regional hegemon. This is an application of:
(A) Bandwagoning
(B) Balancing
(C) Securitization
(D) Appeasement

13. Consider the following statements regarding Kautilya's Mandala theory:
1. It is a geometrical model of statecraft and diplomacy.
2. The Vijigishu is the central conqueror in the system.
3. The state immediately adjacent to the Vijigishu is considered a natural ally.
4. The theory advocates for a static, non-expansionist state policy.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 1 and 4 only
(D) 2, 3, and 4 only

14. In Sun Tzu's philosophy, what is the supreme art of war?
(A) To fight and conquer in all your battles
(B) To destroy the enemy's economic infrastructure
(C) To achieve mutual destruction
(D) To subdue the enemy without fighting

15. Which of the following pairs is incorrectly matched regarding elements of state in Kautilya's Saptanga theory?
(A) Kosha - The Territory
(B) Swami - The King
(C) Amatya - The Ministers
(D) Danda - The Army

16. In Niccolò Machiavelli's strategic thought, a ruler must possess the qualities of which two animals to succeed?
(A) Bear and Eagle
(B) Lion and Fox
(C) Wolf and Hawk
(D) Tiger and Elephant

17. Which of the following statements about Antoine-Henri Jomini's strategic thought is correct?

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(A) He believed war is inherently unpredictable and chaotic, defying any scientific rules.
(B) He emphasized geometric principles, interior lines of operation, and logistics.
(C) He focused exclusively on the theoretical and practical application of guerrilla warfare.
(D) He is widely considered by historians to be the primary father of modern naval strategy.

18. Consider the following statements about Carl von Clausewitz:
1. He defined war as the continuation of politics by other means.
2. He introduced the concept of the "Trinity" of war.
3. He believed friction is a minor issue that does not affect military plans.
4. He introduced the concept of the "Center of Gravity".
5. He argued that total war is easily achievable without political constraints.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 3, and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only

19. According to Clausewitz, the "paradoxical trinity" consists of:
(A) Navy, Army, and Air Force
(B) Offense, Defense, and Retreat
(C) Emotion, Chance, and Reason
(D) Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance

20. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: H. Mackinder's Heartland Theory posited that whoever controls Eastern Europe commands the Heartland.
Statement II: A.T. Mahan believed that control of the heartland was far more crucial than command of the sea.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

21. Which strategic thinker is best known for the phrase "Command of the air is an essential condition of victory"?
(A) William Mitchell
(B) Alexander de Seversky
(C) Giulio Douhet
(D) H. Kissinger

22. Which scenario best represents the application of William Mitchell's theories?
(A) Establishing absolute dominance in land-based trench warfare scenarios
(B) Using strategic bombing independent of ground forces to destroy capacity
(C) Implementing a massive naval blockade to starve the entire enemy population
(D) Engaging solely in long-term diplomatic containment and international trade

23. Arrange the following strategic thinkers in chronological order of their historical eras:
1. Kautilya
2. Sun Tzu
3. Machiavelli
4. Carl von Clausewitz

Choose the correct answer:
(A) 1, 2, 3, 4
(B) 2, 1, 3, 4
(C) 2, 3, 1, 4
(D) 1, 3, 2, 4

24. Which of the following is a negative consequence of applying Giulio Douhet's strategic bombing theory indiscriminately?
(A) Destruction of civilian centers and ethical violations
(B) Rapid conclusion of war with zero measured civilian casualties
(C) Enhancement of diplomatic relations between states post-conflict
(D) Strengthening of the enemy's domestic naval and logistics fleet

25. Alexander de Seversky's strategic thought primarily contributed to the development of which domain of warfare?
(A) Submarine warfare
(B) Space-based missile defense

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(C) Air power and long-range strategic bombing
(D) Cyber warfare

26. Which of the following options correctly identifies Henry Kissinger's contribution to strategic thought?
(A) Realpolitik and the concept of limited nuclear war
(B) The Cold War doctrine of Massive Retaliation
(C) The liberalist Democratic Peace Theory
(D) The historical Sea Power Theory

27. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the doctrine of Massive Retaliation.
(A) It was formulated during the Eisenhower administration.
(B) It threatened a full-scale nuclear response to any conventional attack.
(C) John Foster Dulles was a key architect of this doctrine.
(D) It relied heavily on maintaining large, costly conventional ground forces.

28. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Doctrine)
P. Massive Retaliation
Q. Flexible Response
R. Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD)
S. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI)
List II: (Associated Leader/Administration)
1. John F. Kennedy
2. Ronald Reagan
3. Dwight D. Eisenhower
4. Robert McNamara
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

29. The doctrine of Deterrence is primarily based on which psychological mechanism?
(A) Empathy
(B) Greed for territorial expansion
(C) Fear of unacceptable retaliation
(D) Altruism

30. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Flexible Response advocated for a wide range of military, political, and diplomatic options to deter an enemy attack.
Statement II: Flexible Response was designed to completely replace the nuclear arsenal with purely conventional forces.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

31. Which doctrine ensures that both the attacker and the defender would be completely annihilated in the event of a nuclear war?
(A) Mutually Assured Destruction
(B) Strategic Defence Initiative
(C) Flexible Response model
(D) National Missile Defense (NMD)

32. In the context of nuclear strategy, a "Second Strike Capability" means:
(A) The ability to launch a preemptive strike
(B) Surviving a first strike and retaliating with force
(C) The capacity to use conventional weapons after nuclear weapons fail
(D) Striking an enemy twice before they can effectively respond

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33. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) was heavily criticized by proponents of MAD.
Reason (R): SDI threatened to destabilize the nuclear balance by potentially neutralizing the opponent's retaliatory strike capability.
In the light of the above, choose the correct answer:
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

34. Identify the incorrect pair regarding strategic concepts:
(A) NMD - Offensive nuclear posture for territorial expansion
(B) Deterrence - Prevention of action through fear of consequences
(C) SDI - Star Wars
(D) MAD - Balance of terror

35. What is the fundamental goal of the National Missile Defense (NMD) system?
(A) To launch offensive nuclear missiles into space
(B) To initiate a preemptive first strike on enemy command centers
(C) Shielding a nation from intercontinental ballistic missiles
(D) To replace conventional armies entirely with automated drones

36. Which of the following demonstrates an application of 'Deterrence by Denial'?
(A) Threatening to bomb enemy cities if attacked
(B) Imposing severe economic and trade sanctions
(C) Launching a surprise preemptive ground attack
(D) Building an impenetrable missile defense shield

37. Which of the following is an exception to the elements of constituting a credible nuclear deterrent?
(A) Capability
(B) Communication of intent
(C) Secrecy of possessing nuclear technology
(D) Will or credibility to use the weapons

38. Consider the following statements about India's Nuclear Doctrine:
1. It emphasizes a 'No First Use' (NFU) policy.
2. It calls for building a 'credible minimum deterrence'.
3. It asserts that nuclear retaliation to a first strike will be massive and designed to inflict unacceptable damage.
4. It restricts the use of nuclear weapons only against non-nuclear weapon states.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3 only
(B) 1, 2, and 4 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

39. India's strategic posture of maintaining a 'Nuclear Triad' implies:
(A) Alliances with three major nuclear powers
(B) Dividing the nuclear arsenal into three command structures
(C) Developing three different types of nuclear warheads
(D) Launching nuclear weapons from land, air, and sea

40. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: India's Maritime Doctrine emphasizes securing the sea lines of communication (SLOCs) in the Indian Ocean Region.
Statement II: India's Maritime Doctrine strictly prohibits joint naval exercises with foreign navies.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

41. The evolution of India's security policy post-1962 primarily shifted focus toward:
(A) Demilitarization
(B) Non-alignment with absolute pacifism
(C) Modernizing conventional forces and infrastructure
(D) Complete reliance on UN peacekeeping forces

42. Which of the following best represents a competency-based application of India's 'No First Use' policy?
(A) Absorbing a strike and retaliating massively
(B) India launches a nuclear strike upon detecting a massive conventional build-up by an adversary.
(C) India uses tactical nuclear weapons to stop a border skirmish.

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disaster relief.
4. It envisions a blue-water capability for the Indian Navy.
5. It focuses solely on inland river navigation.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
(C) 2, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only

94. The shift from state-centric security to human-centric security is fundamentally a shift in the:
(A) Military tactics used in warfare
(B) Type of weapons manufactured
(C) Number of soldiers deployed
(D) Referent object of security

95. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Disarmament is often viewed as a utopian goal, while arms control is a pragmatic step-by-step approach.
Statement II: The ultimate goal of General and Complete Disarmament (GCD) has been successfully achieved in the 21st century.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

96. Which doctrine replaced Massive Retaliation during the Kennedy administration to provide more options than just nuclear war?
(A) Strategic Defence Initiative
(B) Flexible Response
(C) Preemptive Strike Doctrine
(D) Rollback Doctrine

97. Which of the following is a direct effect of successful track-two diplomacy?
(A) Immediate legally binding treaties
(B) Mutual trust and informal communication
(C) A formal declaration of war
(D) Imposition of UN sanctions

98. Which of the following is an exception to the principles of a 'Just War' (Jus ad bellum)?
(A) Targeting of non-combatants
(B) Just cause
(C) Legitimate authority
(D) Proportionality

99. If a state develops a stealth fighter aircraft capable of striking targets deep inside enemy territory undetected, it is leveraging which concept?
(A) Low Intensity Conflict (LIC)
(B) Track II Diplomacy
(C) Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA)
(D) Peacebuilding

100. Identify the correct statement regarding 'Low Intensity Conflict' (LIC).
(A) LIC typically involves large-scale, decisive armored battles.
(B) LIC operations are purely political and involve zero military force.
(C) LIC strictly involves the use of weapons of mass destruction.
(D) Insurgency and subversion are key LIC components

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101. Which term describes warfare that involves NBC (Nuclear, Biological, Chemical) weapons?
(A) Unconventional Warfare
(B) Information Warfare
(C) Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Warfare
(D) Cyber Warfare

102. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Energy security is solely about maintaining domestic production of renewable energy.
Statement II: Energy security also includes ensuring stable, affordable, and reliable access to global energy markets and routes.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is

(D) Massive Retaliation

51. Identify the correct pair regarding elements of the Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA):
(A) Precision-guided munitions - Indiscriminate area bombing
(B) Stealth technology - Increasing radar visibility
(C) Integrated command, intelligence, and surveillance
(D) Network-centric warfare - Isolated, independent unit operations

52. Which statement regarding Biological Warfare is incorrect?
(A) It involves the use of living organisms or their toxins to cause disease.
(B) The Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) bans the development, production, and stockpiling of such weapons.
(C) It can target humans, animals, or agriculture.
(D) It is considered a highly controllable and predictable form of warfare.

53. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Non-Traditional Security Threat)
P. Food Security
Q. Health Security
R. Energy Security
S. Environmental Security
List II: (Specific Issue)
1. Climate change and biodiversity loss
2. Pandemics and infectious diseases
3. Uninterrupted supply of fossil fuels
4. Access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious diets
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(B) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

54. The concept of 'Human Security', introduced in the 1994 UNDP Human Development Report, shifts the referent object of security from the state to:
(A) Multinational Corporations
(B) The Individual
(C) The Military
(D) International Organizations

55. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Non-traditional security threats are often transnational and require cooperative multilateral responses.
Statement II: Military force is always the most effective tool to resolve non-traditional security threats.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

56. Which of the following represents a cause-and-effect relationship in environmental security?
(A) Scarcity-led conflict via climate droughts
(B) Deforestation causes a rise in global oil prices
(C) Renewable energy transition causes an increase in nuclear weapons proliferation
(D) Strict environmental laws lead to immediate global disarmament

57. Which of the following is an exception to the pillars of Food Security as defined by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)?
(A) Availability
(B) Access
(C) Monopolization
(D) Utilization

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58. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Cyber security has emerged as a critical component of national security.
Reason (R): Critical national infrastructure, such as power grids and financial systems, are increasingly networked and vulnerable to cyber attacks.
In the light of the above, choose the correct answer:
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.

112. A state actively building cyber defenses to protect its banking infrastructure is addressing which type of security?
(A) Traditional Military Security
(B) Non-Traditional Security
(C) Biological Security
(D) Food Security

113. Consider the following statements on Air Power theorists:
1. Douhet argued that civilian populations should be targeted to break morale.
2. Mitchell proved the vulnerability of aircraft could sink battleships.
3. Seversky advocated for long-range air power and global reach.
4. Mahan strongly supported the supremacy of air power over naval power.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3 only
(B) 2, 3, and 4 only
(C) 1, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, and 4 only

114. In conflict resolution, a 'zero-sum game' implies:
(A) One party's gain is exactly matched by the other party's loss
(B) Both parties win equally
(C) Neither party gains anything
(D) Both parties lose

115. Identify the incorrect pair regarding international security concepts:
(A) Preemptive strike - Striking first in anticipation of an imminent attack
(B) Preventive strike - Striking to destroy a potential future threat before it materializes
(C) Appeasement - Aggressively challenging a rival's territorial claims
(D) Collective Defense - An attack on one is considered an attack on all within an alliance

116. Which of the following demonstrates the concept of 'Gender Security' in action?
(A) Restricting military service to males only
(B) Ignoring gender-based violence during post-conflict reconstruction
(C) Focusing solely on male combatant casualties
(D) Implementing Resolution 1325 on Women and Peace

117. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Arms control agreements require absolute trust and no verification mechanisms.
Statement II: Verification mechanisms, such as inspections, are crucial components of modern arms control treaties.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

118. Consider the following statements regarding Non-Traditional Security:
1. It broadens the security agenda beyond state-centric military threats.
2. It includes issues like poverty, disease, and environmental degradation.
3. It argues that non-state actors and individuals are relevant referent objects of security.
4. It completely rejects the existence of traditional military threats.
5. Human security is a key component of this paradigm.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
(B) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(C) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

119. According to Halford Mackinder, the "Heartland" encompasses which geographical region?
(A) North America
(B) Western Europe
(C) The Pacific Rim
(D) The vast Eurasian landmass, primarily Russia

120. Which statement is incorrect regarding the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)?
(A) It allows the use of chemical weapons for riot control in international warfare.

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(C) Preemptive military strike
(D) Arbitration

68. Consider the following statements regarding Arms Control Treaties:
1. The SALT I treaty aimed to limit strategic offensive arms.
2. The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) prohibits the development, production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons.
3. The CTBT has been ratified by all nuclear-armed nations.
4. The ABM Treaty was signed between the US and the USSR.
5. India is a signatory to the NPT.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 3, and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only

69. The concept of "Track II Diplomacy" in conflict resolution refers to:
(A) Official, formal negotiations between heads of state
(B) Secret military alliances
(C) Unofficial, informal non-state interactions
(D) Deployment of UN peacekeepers

70. Identify the incorrect statement regarding international terrorism.
(A) It relies on fear and psychological impact.
(B) It is solely a domestic law enforcement issue with no international dimensions.
(C) It can be perpetrated by transnational non-state actors.
(D) Radicalization and state-sponsorship can be contributing factors.

71. What is the fundamental goal of 'Preventive Diplomacy'?
(A) To punish states after they have engaged in conflict
(B) To distribute arms equally among conflicting parties
(C) To enforce trade embargoes indefinitely
(D) Preventing conflict escalation and spread

72. Which strategic thinker wrote the seminal work "The Influence of Sea Power upon History"?
(A) A.T. Mahan
(B) Sun Tzu
(C) H. Mackinder
(D) Antonio Jomini

73. Arrange the following strategic doctrines in the chronological order of their emergence in US policy:
1. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI)
2. Massive Retaliation
3. Flexible Response
4. Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD)

Choose the correct answer:
(A) 2, 3, 4, 1
(B) 2, 4, 3, 1
(C) 3, 2, 4, 1
(D) 4, 2, 3, 1

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74. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Environmental security threats are purely localized and do not cause transboundary issues.
Statement II: Issues like river water sharing and transboundary air pollution can become sources of international conflict.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

75. A country experiences extreme famine leading to mass migration across borders, which in turn causes resource conflicts in the neighboring country. This is an example of which non-traditional security threat triggering traditional conflict?
(A) Cyber Security
(B) Gender Security
(C) Nuclear Security
(D) Food Security

76. In the context of strategic thought, Kautilya's concept of 'Sadgunya' (six-fold policy) does NOT include:
(A) Sandhi (Treaty/Peace)
(B) Ahimsa (Absolute Non-violence)

(D) A is false but R is true.

59. Gender security in international relations highlights:
(A) The exclusion of women from all security discourse
(B) The irrelevance of gender norms in military organizations
(C) The belief that only men can be victims of war
(D) Differential conflict impact and participation

60. Identify the incorrect pair regarding non-traditional security:
(A) Energy Security - Securing supply chains of critical minerals
(B) Health Security - Combating HIV/AIDS and COVID-19
(C) Environmental Security - Managing transboundary river water disputes
(D) Cyber Terrorism - Conventional bombing of government buildings

61. If a terrorist group launches a coordinated digital attack on a nation's banking software to disrupt the economy, this is a clear application of:
(A) Conventional deterrence
(B) Biological warfare
(C) Cyber terrorism
(D) Massive retaliation

62. Which concept focuses on addressing the root causes of disputes, such as structural inequality and historical grievances, to achieve long-term harmony?
(A) Conflict Management
(B) Arms Proliferation
(C) Coercive Diplomacy
(D) Conflict Resolution

63. Consider the following statements about Peacebuilding:
1. It occurs only during active combat operations.
2. It aims to reduce the risk of a lapse or relapse into conflict.
3. It involves strengthening national capacities at all levels for conflict management.
4. It is synonymous with aggressive military intervention.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1 and 4 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2, and 3 only
(D) 2, 3, and 4 only

64. What is the primary difference between Arms Control and Disarmament?
(A) Arms Control only applies to nuclear weapons, while Disarmament applies to conventional weapons.
(B) Disarmament eliminates weapons; control regulates
(C) Disarmament is a modern concept, while Arms Control is ancient.
(D) They are completely synonymous terms in international relations.

65. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is an example of an arms control agreement.
Statement II: Disarmament requires states to increase their weapons stockpiles to maintain a balance of power.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

66. Identify the correct statement regarding Johan Galtung's concepts of peace.
(A) Negative peace lacks direct violence; positive lacks structural
(B) Negative peace is the absence of structural violence and the presence of social justice.
(C) Positive peace is simply the absence of direct, physical violence.
(D) Both concepts advocate for the use of military force to sustain peace.

67. Which of the following is NOT an instrument of Conflict Resolution?
(A) Mediation
(B) Negotiation

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intervention without consent
(C) Preventive Diplomacy - Post-conflict reconstruction
(D) Peacekeeping - Deployment of forces to monitor a ceasefire

85. If a mediator uses a 'BATNA' (Best Alternative to a Negotiated Agreement) strategy during conflict resolution, they are applying concepts from:
(A) Nuclear Deterrence theory
(B) Strategic Bombing theory
(C) Game Theory and Negotiation
(D) Marxist State theory

86. Which statement regarding the concept of 'Mutually Assured Destruction' (MAD) is incorrect?
(A) It relies on both sides having a credible second-strike capability.
(B) It assumes rational decision-making by state leaders.
(C) It advocates for the aggressive first use of nuclear weapons to disarm the enemy.
(D) It is a product of Cold War strategic thinking.

87. An adversary using propaganda, fake news, and social media manipulation to destabilize a nation's internal politics is engaging in:
(A) Chemical Warfare
(B) Massive Retaliation
(C) Preventive Diplomacy
(D) Information Warfare

88. Consider the following statements regarding the Evolution of Strategic Thought:
1. Kautilya's Arthashastra is a foundational text of ancient Indian statecraft.
2. Sun Tzu emphasized the importance of deception in warfare.
3. Clausewitz argued that war is merely a blind struggle of military forces with no political purpose.
4. Machiavelli separated political morality from personal morality.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 3, and 4 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, and 3 only

89. According to A.T. Mahan, which of the following is NOT a principal condition affecting the sea power of a nation?
(A) Geographical position
(B) Extent of territory
(C) Absolute reliance on airborne logistics
(D) Character of the government

90. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The concept of NMD (National Missile Defense) represents an offensive nuclear posture.
Statement II: SDI (Strategic Defence Initiative) was proposed to create a defensive shield using space-based technology.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
(D) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect

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91. Which of the following best defines 'Diplomacy' in the context of security?
(A) The application of absolute military force
(B) The unilateral imposition of trade tariffs
(C) The physical destruction of an opponent's resources
(D) Negotiation between state representatives

92. Identify the incorrect pair regarding the types of Non-Traditional Security threats:
(A) Economic Security - Assured basic income and poverty alleviation
(B) Guaranteeing protection from cyber hacking
(C) Food Security - Physical and economic access to basic food
(D) Environmental Security - Protection against severe environmental degradation

93. Consider the following statements about India's Maritime Doctrine:
1. It aims to protect India's exclusive economic zone (EEZ).
2. It completely disregards the protection of sea lines of communication (SLOCs).
3. It involves anti-piracy operations and

(D) India threatens non-nuclear states with nuclear strikes to gain diplomatic leverage.

43. Consider the following statements regarding the Evolution of India's Security Policies:
1. The 1971 war highlighted the necessity of comprehensive joint operations.
2. The Pokhran-II tests in 1998 formalized India's status as a nuclear weapons state.
3. The Kargil War prompted the establishment of the Kargil Review Committee.
4. India has never participated in UN Peacekeeping operations to maintain strict neutrality.
5. Strategic autonomy remains a core pillar of India's foreign and security policy.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
(B) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(C) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

44. What is the primary cause for the rising importance of the Indo-Pacific construct in India's Maritime Doctrine?
(A) The decline of maritime trade
(B) China's naval footprint and regional assertiveness
(C) The discovery of new continents
(D) The irrelevance of the Malacca Strait

45. Identify the incorrect statement regarding conventional warfare.
(A) It relies on well-defined battlefields and identifiable armed forces.
(B) It generally adheres to the laws of war and international conventions.
(C) Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs) are routinely used as primary tools in conventional warfare.
(D) The goal is usually to diminish the opponent's military capacity.

46. Which of the following is an exception to the characteristics of Low Intensity Conflicts (LIC)?
(A) Use of subversive tactics
(B) Asymmetric warfare tactics
(C) Focus on political and psychological objectives
(D) Deployment of massive armored divisions in open terrain

47. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Information Warfare aims to achieve information superiority over an adversary.
Statement II: Communication Warfare only involves the physical destruction of enemy radio towers.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

48. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Types of Warfare)
P. Biological Warfare
Q. Chemical Warfare
R. Nuclear Warfare
S. Cyber Warfare
List II: (Associated Weapon/Agent)
1. Fission and Fusion devices
2. Malware and Ransomware
3. Anthrax and Botulinum Toxin
4. Sarin and Mustard Gas

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

49. Which of the following best defines the 'Revolution in Military Affairs' (RMA)?
(A) A sudden uprising of soldiers against their commanders
(B) Systematic change in war character via technology
(C) The abolition of standing armies
(D) The return to traditional cavalry charges

50. If an armed group avoids direct confrontation, blends in with the civilian population, and uses hit-and-run tactics, they are employing:
(A) Guerrilla Warfare tactics
(B) Conventional Warfare
(C) Strategic Bombing

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103. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Scholar/Thinker)
P. H. Kissinger
Q. William Mitchell
R. Kautilya
S. Machiavelli
List II: (Book/Concept associated)
1. Nuclear Weapons and Foreign Policy
2. Winged Defense
3. Arthashastra
4. The Prince
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

104. Which of the following is an exception to traditional military security threats?
(A) A global viral pandemic
(B) Cross-border territorial invasion
(C) Naval blockade by an adversary
(D) Artillery bombardment by a hostile state

105. An application of India's nuclear doctrine in a crisis scenario implies that India will:
(A) Threaten first use to deter conventional attacks
(B) Automatically launch nuclear weapons if its borders are breached by infantry
(C) Retaliate only for NBC attacks
(D) Surrender its nuclear arsenal during a conflict to ensure peace

106. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the concept of 'Terrorism'.
(A) It is a recognized and legal method of conventional statecraft under international law.
(B) It relies on random or symbolic violence to induce fear.
(C) It aims to influence a broader audience beyond the immediate victims.
(D) Both state and non-state actors have been accused of employing terror tactics.

107. The concept of the 'Security Dilemma' suggests that:
(A) Complete disarmament is easily achievable.
(B) Alliances are inherently stable and permanent.
(C) States always trust each other's intentions.
(D) Defensive acts perceived as offensive threats

108. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Climate change is considered a "threat multiplier."
Reason (R): It exacerbates existing social, economic, and political tensions, potentially leading to violent conflict over resources.
In the light of the above, choose the correct answer:
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

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109. What is the cause of 'Friction' in war, according to Clausewitz?
(A) Perfect communication between commanders
(B) Technological superiority
(C) Unpredictable incidents distinguishing real war from theory
(D) A lack of nuclear weapons

110. Identify the correct pair:
(A) Peacemaking - Forcible intervention against a sovereign state
(B) Arms Control - Total elimination of all armed forces
(C) Hegemonic Stability - A system with no dominant power
(D) Conflict containment without root resolution

111. Which of the following is NOT a pillar of India's current security posture?
(A) Joining formal, binding military alliances like NATO
(B) Developing a robust indigenous defense industrial base
(C) Engaging in multi-alignment and strategic partnerships
(D) Maintaining credible minimum deterrence

(C) Vigraha (War)
(D) Asana (Neutrality/Waiting)

77. Which of the following represents the correct definition of "Deterrence by Punishment"?
(A) Denying the enemy the ability to achieve their operational goals
(B) Punishing a state economically through sanctions prior to any attack
(C) Threatening severe retaliatory costs for attacks
(D) Deploying defensive interceptor missiles

78. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Key Concept)
P. Center of Gravity
Q. Heartland
R. Rimland
S. No First Use
List II: (Associated Thinker/Country)
1. Spykman
2. Clausewitz
3. India
4. Mackinder
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(C) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

79. What effect did the advent of nuclear weapons have on the strategic concept of 'Total War'?
(A) Irrationality via mutual annihilation threat
(B) It made total war the preferred method of conflict resolution
(C) It completely eliminated conventional warfare
(D) It encouraged states to abandon alliances

80. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA) highly values network-centric warfare and precision-guided munitions.
Statement II: The RMA suggests that technological superiority guarantees political success in insurgencies and low-intensity conflicts.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

81. Which of the following is an incorrect statement about Cyber Warfare?
(A) It involves the use of cyber attacks against an enemy state, causing comparable harm to actual warfare.
(B) Attribution of attacks in cyber warfare is often simple and immediate.
(C) It can be conducted symmetrically or asymmetrically.
(D) State and non-state actors can both be perpetrators.

82. Which non-traditional security concept directly addresses the vulnerabilities created by dependence on imported fossil fuels?
(A) Energy Security
(B) Human Security
(C) Health Security
(D) Gender Security

83. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Contemporary conflicts are increasingly characterized as asymmetric warfare.
Reason (R): Non-state actors often lack the conventional military power of state armies and thus use unconventional tactics like terrorism and insurgency to offset this disadvantage.
In the light of the above, choose the correct answer:
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

84. Identify the correct pair regarding elements of Conflict Resolution:
(A) Peacemaking - Long-term economic development initiatives
(B) Peacebuilding - Forcible military

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(B) It is an arms control treaty.
(C) It outlaws the production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons.
(D) It has a dedicated verification regime managed by the OPCW.

121. What is the fundamental principle of 'Collective Defense' as seen in NATO?
(A) Economic integration eliminates the need for armies
(B) Members must surrender their sovereignty to a central command
(C) An armed attack against one member is considered an attack against all members
(D) Only nuclear-armed states can be members

122. Which scholar is widely recognized for conceptualizing the 'Clash of Civilizations' as a post-Cold War security model?
(A) Samuel P. Huntington
(B) Francis Fukuyama model
(C) Kenneth Waltz theory
(D) Alexander Wendt view

123. Arrange the following developments in India's security policy in chronological order:
1. The Pokhran-I 'Smiling Buddha' nuclear test
2. The Kargil War
3. The Sino-Indian War
4. Establishment of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) position

Choose the correct answer:
(A) 3, 1, 2, 4
(B) 1, 3, 2, 4
(C) 3, 2, 1, 4
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4

124. Which of the following is an exception to the elements of national power?
(A) Economic capability
(B) Universal morality completely detached from national interest
(C) Military strength
(D) National morale and leadership

125. The use of biological agents like anthrax to intentionally harm a population is classified as:
(A) Conventional warfare
(B) Information warfare
(C) Biological warfare / Bioterrorism
(D) Cyber warfare

126. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the doctrine of 'Mutually Assured Destruction' (MAD).
(A) It necessitates a balance of terror.
(B) Anti-ballistic missile systems were historically seen as destabilizing to MAD.
(C) It implies that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought.
(D) It requires a vulnerable second-strike capability.

127. Which concept represents the application of diplomatic and economic tools to compel an adversary to change its behavior without resorting to full-scale war?
(A) Coercive Diplomacy
(B) Massive Retaliation
(C) Total War
(D) Disarmament

128. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Theory/Concept)
P. Rimland Theory
Q. Sea Power
R. Securitization
S. Democratic Peace Theory
List II: (Scholar/Thinker)
1. A.T. Mahan
2. Nicholas Spykman
3. Michael Doyle / Immanuel Kant
4. Barry Buzan / Ole Wæver

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

129. What is the cause of 'Nuclear Proliferation'?
(A) Strict adherence to the NPT by all nations
(B) States seeking weapons for security or prestige
(C) The total elimination of all global nuclear stockpiles
(D) The discovery of renewable energy

130. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA) is characterized by the integration of

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correct

166. Identify the correct statement regarding 'Comprehensive Security'.
(A) It relies entirely on nuclear deterrence.
(B) Encompassing military, economic, and ecological security
(C) It was a concept developed exclusively for offensive warfare.
(D) It ignores the role of economic stability in maintaining peace.

167. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of conventional warfare?
(A) Identifiable military uniforms
(B) Adherence to the laws of war
(C) Clear distinction between combatants and non-combatants
(D) Heavy reliance on cyber and biological agents as primary weapons

168. Consider the following statements about India's Security Policies:
1. Non-alignment was a key feature of India's early foreign and security policy.
2. India's maritime strategy strictly avoids the Indian Ocean Region.
3. The doctrine of Credible Minimum Deterrence guides its nuclear policy.
4. India has significantly increased defense indigenization through initiatives like 'Make in India'.
5. India strongly advocates for a purely unipolar Asian security architecture dominated by one state.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3 only
(B) 1, 3, and 4 only
(C) 2, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only

169. What is the primary focus of 'Conflict Management' compared to 'Conflict Resolution'?
(A) Management seeks total victory; resolution seeks total surrender.
(B) Management is a legal term; resolution is a military term.
(C) Symptom containment versus deep root-cause resolution
(D) There is no difference between the two.

170. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the concept of Peace.
(A) Positive peace requires social justice and equity.
(B) Negative peace is simply the absence of war.
(C) Peacebuilding is a short-term military operation.
(D) Sustainable peace addresses structural violence.

171. Which strategic concept deals with protecting computer systems, networks, and data from theft, damage, or unauthorized access?
(A) Kinetic Warfare model
(B) Electromagnetic Pulse
(C) Strategic Bombing
(D) Information and Cyber Security

172. The theory of 'Securitization', where an issue is presented as an existential threat requiring emergency measures, was developed by:
(A) The Frankfurt School
(B) The Copenhagen School
(C) The English School
(D) The Chicago School

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173. Arrange the following arms control treaties in chronological order of their signing:
1. Partial Test Ban Treaty (PTBT)
2. Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)
3. Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)
4. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)

Choose the correct answer:
(A) 1, 2, 3, 4
(B) 2, 1, 4, 3
(C) 1, 3, 2, 4
(D) 2, 3, 1, 4

174. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: India's No First Use (NFU) policy means India will never use nuclear weapons under any circumstances.
Statement II: India's NFU policy dictates that nuclear weapons will only be used in retaliation against a nuclear attack on Indian territory or forces.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct

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139. What is the primary focus of 'Track I' and 'Track II' diplomacy?
(A) Track I is multilateral; Track II is bilateral.
(B) Track I is used for economic issues; Track II for military issues.
(C) Track I is secret; Track II is fully public.
(D) Track I involves officials; Track II is informal

140. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Environmental security recognizes that resource depletion and ecological degradation can trigger violent conflicts.
Statement II: Traditional security studies historically ignored environmental factors.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

141. The use of proxy forces to fight a rival power without engaging in direct conflict is a feature of:
(A) Total War
(B) Symmetrical Warfare
(C) Low Intensity Conflict / Proxy Warfare
(D) General Disarmament

142. Identify the incorrect pair regarding arms control treaties and their scope:
(A) NPT - Nuclear Weapons Proliferation
(B) BWC - Biological Weapons
(C) CTBT - Nuclear Testing
(D) CWC - Conventional Artillery

143. Consider the following statements about Human Security:
1. It encompasses "freedom from fear" and "freedom from want."
2. It was popularized by the 1994 UNDP report.
3. It advocates that state security automatically guarantees human security.
4. It addresses threats like poverty, disease, and environmental hazards.
5. It is solely concerned with defending national borders.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 2, 3, and 5 only
(C) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only

144. Which of the following is a cause of 'Information Warfare' gaining prominence?
(A) The decline in global literacy rates
(B) Military and societal digital reliance
(C) The abolition of traditional standing armies
(D) The failure of nuclear deterrence

145. What is the main objective of 'Arms Control'?
(A) To eliminate all weapons globally
(B) Strategic stability via regulated competition
(C) To increase the military budget of all states
(D) To transfer weapons to non-state actors

146. Which concept is central to Sun Tzu's "The Art of War"?
(A) Know enemy and self for safety in battle
(B) Brute force is the only path to victory.
(C) Wars should be prolonged to exhaust the enemy's economy.
(D) Strategic bombing is the key to modern warfare.

147. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Nuclear weapons have historically served as instruments of deterrence rather than warfighting.
Statement II: The use of biological weapons is widely accepted as a legitimate tactical military option under international law.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

148. Identify the correct statement regarding India's approach to the NPT (Non-Proliferation Treaty).
(A) India signed the NPT immediately in 1968.
(B) India was a founding member and original

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202. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The biological weapons convention (BWC) lacks a formal verification regime.
Statement II: The chemical weapons convention (CWC) has a robust verification mechanism administered by the OPCW.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

203. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Strategic Thinker)
P. Sun Tzu
Q. Clausewitz
R. Mahan
S. Mackinder
List II: (Core Idea)
1. Sea Power
2. Heartland Theory
3. Friction in War
4. Winning without fighting
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(C) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

204. Which of the following is NOT an element of the 'Revolution in Military Affairs' (RMA)?
(A) Precision-guided munitions
(B) Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs)
(C) Advanced command and control (C2)
(D) Massed frontal infantry assaults

205. How does the concept of 'Human Security' fundamentally differ from 'National Security'?
(A) It focuses on military defense rather than economic stability.
(B) It advocates for larger nuclear arsenals.
(C) Referent object is the individual
(D) It is only applicable during wartime.

206. Identify the incorrect statement regarding 'Conflict Resolution'.
(A) It aims to address the root causes of conflict.
(B) It involves negotiation and mediation.
(C) It seeks sustainable, long-term peace.
(D) It relies solely on the use of military superiority to crush the opponent.

207. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Cyber warfare poses a unique challenge to international security.
Reason (R): The attribution of cyber attacks is often extremely difficult, blurring the lines of responsibility and retaliation.
In the light of the above, choose the correct answer:
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

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208. The 'Security Dilemma' is most acute in a system that is:
(A) Hierarchical and governed by a world police force
(B) Anarchic and lacks a supreme authority
(C) Dominated by a single benevolent hegemon
(D) Completely demilitarized

209. If an adversary attempts to destroy a nation's military communication nodes and radar systems using electromagnetic jamming, this is an example of:
(A) Chemical warfare
(B) Electronic / Information warfare
(C) Biological warfare
(D) Guerrilla warfare

210. Identify the correct pair:
(A) Anarchy - The absence of a central, overarching global authority
(B) Bipolarity - A system with a single dominant superpower
(C) Hegemony - A system with multiple equal powers
(D) Multipolarity - A system entirely managed by the United Nations

(A) Use of asymmetric tactics
(B) Seeking media attention and psychological impact
(C) Adherence to the Geneva Conventions and laws of armed conflict
(D) Use of symbolic targets

158. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The Cold War witnessed a massive arms race between the USA and the USSR.
Reason (R): Both superpowers relied on the doctrine of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) to deter a direct military conflict.
In the light of the above, choose the correct answer:
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

159. In the context of conflict resolution, what does 'Mediation' entail?
(A) Third-party assistance in reaching voluntary settlements
(B) The imposition of a legally binding decision by a judge
(C) The use of military force to separate combatants
(D) Direct, unassisted bilateral negotiations

160. Identify the incorrect pair regarding strategic thinkers:
(A) H. Kissinger - Shuttle Diplomacy
(B) A.T. Mahan - Proponent of land-based heartland control
(C) William Mitchell - Advocate for an independent Air Force
(D) Carl von Clausewitz - Fog of War

161. A state developing capabilities to intercept and destroy enemy communications satellites is engaging in which domain of warfare?
(A) Biological warfare
(B) Space/Information warfare
(C) Low intensity conflict
(D) Guerrilla warfare

162. Which non-traditional security concept emphasizes the protection of individuals from sudden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life?
(A) Human Security
(B) National Security
(C) State Sovereignty
(D) Realpolitik

163. Consider the following statements about Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI):
1. It was nicknamed "Star Wars."
2. It aimed to develop a space-based anti-missile system.
3. It was proposed by President Ronald Reagan.
4. It successfully deployed a fully functional global shield by 1990.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

164. What is the main cause of conflicts categorized as 'Low Intensity Conflicts' (LIC)?
(A) The desire of conventional armies to test new nuclear weapons
(B) Strict enforcement of international arms control treaties
(C) The total absence of small arms in the global market
(D) Grievance-driven asymmetric challenges to state authority

165. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The concept of 'Revolution in Military Affairs' (RMA) implies a slow, gradual evolution of military tactics over centuries.
Statement II: RMA involves rapid, profound changes in warfare driven by technological innovations, organizational adaptation, and new operational concepts.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is

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Retaliation became less credible over time.
Reason (R): As the Soviet Union developed its own nuclear retaliatory capabilities, a US threat of massive nuclear strikes for minor incursions became self-destructive and unbelievable.
In the light of the above, choose the correct answer:
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

184. In strategic thought, the 'Heartland Theory' suggests that control of which region is the key to global dominance?
(A) The central landmass of Eurasia
(B) The rimlands of Eurasia
(C) The oceans of the world
(D) The North American continent

185. If a state provides covert funding and weapons to an insurgent group in a neighboring country to destabilize its government, this is an example of:
(A) Symmetrical warfare
(B) Peacemaking
(C) Proxy war / State-sponsored terrorism
(D) Arms control

186. Which of the following is an exception to the goals of Disarmament?
(A) Increasing the lethality of conventional weapons
(B) Reducing the likelihood of war
(C) Saving economic resources
(D) Building international trust

187. Which thinker is associated with the emphasis on interior lines of operation and the geometric principles of war?
(A) Kautilya
(B) Henry Kissinger
(C) Giulio Douhet
(D) Antoine-Henri Jomini

188. Consider the following statements about New Modes of Warfare:
1. Cyber warfare can blur the lines between war and peace.
2. RMA is driven largely by advances in C4ISR capabilities.
3. Information warfare seeks to control and manipulate the flow of information.
4. Conventional warfare has been completely rendered obsolete by nuclear weapons.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

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189. What is the primary focus of 'Non-Traditional Security' as a distinct field of study?
(A) The invention of the atomic bomb
(B) The decline in global trade
(C) Existential threats like climate and pandemics
(D) The return to imperial conquest

190. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Food security is achieved when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food.
Statement II: Food security is an exclusively agricultural concept with no implications for national security or stability.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

191. Which of the following best defines 'Preventive Diplomacy'?
(A) Preventing disputes from arising or escalating
(B) A preemptive nuclear strike
(C) Forcing democratic elections through military occupation
(D) Economic sanctions applied post-conflict

192. Identify the incorrect pair regarding security threats:
(A) Environmental Security - Deforestation and Water Scarcity

(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

175. Which scenario best illustrates the concept of 'Environmental Security' being compromised?
(A) Conflict-triggering drought leading to crop failures
(B) A nation experiences a minor drop in GDP due to trade tariffs.
(C) Two nations sign a mutual defense pact.
(D) A country launches a new communication satellite.

176. Which of the following is NOT an element of National Security?
(A) Military strength
(B) Imposition of a single global culture
(C) Economic resilience
(D) Social cohesion

177. The concept of 'Deterrence' assumes that the adversary is:
(A) Irrational and suicidal
(B) Calculating and rational actor
(C) Unaware of your military capabilities
(D) Always seeking peace

178. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Warfare Mode)
P. Conventional Warfare
Q. Asymmetric Warfare
R. Cyber Warfare
S. Nuclear Warfare
List II: (Defining Feature)
1. Use of malware to disable critical infrastructure
2. Conflict between forces of vastly unequal military power
3. Engagement by uniformed armies using standard weapons
4. Use of weapons of mass destruction for immense devastation
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(D) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3

179. What is the fundamental goal of 'Arms Control'?
(A) Eradicating all weapons from the face of the earth
(B) Ensuring only one superpower has nuclear weapons
(C) Regulating arms races for strategic stability
(D) Promoting the unregulated sale of small arms

180. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Gender security focuses exclusively on the security of women in domestic environments.
Statement II: Gender security recognizes that conflict affects genders differently and advocates for women's inclusion in peace processes.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

181. Which scholar famously argued that war is merely the continuation of policy by other means?
(A) Sun Tzu
(B) Machiavelli
(C) Carl von Clausewitz
(D) Antoine Jomini

182. Identify the incorrect statement regarding 'Terrorism'.
(A) It is a tactic used to achieve political goals through fear.
(B) It exclusively targets military personnel in combat zones.
(C) It relies heavily on media coverage to amplify its psychological impact.
(D) Cyber-terrorism is a modern variant of this threat.

183. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The doctrine of Massive

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drafter of the NPT treaty.
(C) India signed the NPT following its nuclear tests in 1998.
(D) India views it as discriminatory 'have-not' division

149. Which thinker introduced the concept of the 'OODA Loop' (Observe, Orient, Decide, Act) which is highly relevant to information warfare and RMA?
(A) Henry Kissinger
(B) Carl von Clausewitz
(C) John Boyd
(D) Antoine Jomini

150. Which of the following is an exception to the principles of peacekeeping?
(A) Consent of the parties
(B) Immediate use of massive offensive force to destroy an aggressor state
(C) Impartiality
(D) Non-use of force except in self-defense and defense of the mandate

151. If a nation is heavily investing in securing its agricultural supply chains and building strategic grain reserves, it is primarily addressing:
(A) Cyber Security
(B) Space Security
(C) Energy Security
(D) Food Security

152. Identify the incorrect statement regarding cyber security.
(A) A specific, universally accepted cyber treaty
(B) Cyber attacks can cause physical damage to critical infrastructure.
(C) Stuxnet is an example of a cyber weapon.
(D) Malware and Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) are common cyber attack methods.

153. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Diplomatic/Security Concept)
P. Balancing
Q. Bandwagoning
R. Deterrence
S. Compellence
List II: (Definition)
1. Allying with a dominant threat to ensure survival
2. Forcing an adversary to stop or reverse an action
3. Aligning against a dominant threat
4. Threatening unacceptable costs to prevent an action

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(D) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1

154. What is the fundamental premise of 'Democratic Peace Theory'?
(A) Democracies almost never go to war with one another.
(B) Democracies are inherently more aggressive than autocracies.
(C) Democracies always win wars.
(D) Democracies prefer economic sanctions over diplomacy.

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155. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Traditional security studies focus primarily on the state and military defense.
Statement II: Non-traditional security completely ignores the state and focuses only on environmental issues.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

156. Which of the following represents a cause-and-effect relationship in cyber warfare?
(A) Firewall construction leads to immediate physical border skirmishes
(B) Ransomware-induced hospital system crashes endangering lives
(C) Cyber espionage causes a reduction in global greenhouse gas emissions
(D) Upgrading software leads directly to nuclear proliferation

157. Which of the following is an exception to the characteristics of modern terrorism?

(B) Securing maritime trade routes against piracy
(C) Energy Security - Assured supply of critical energy resources
(D) Health Security - Mitigation of infectious diseases like Ebola

193. Consider the following statements regarding Kautilya's strategic thought:
1. The king is the most important element of the state (Saptanga).
2. The Mandala theory guides foreign policy based on geographical determinism.
3. Danda (force) is completely rejected in favor of pure diplomacy.
4. Spies play a crucial role in maintaining internal and external security.
5. Kautilya advocated for the ethical treatment of conquered peoples to ensure stability.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only

194. The shift from US nuclear strategy from 'Massive Retaliation' to 'Flexible Response' was primarily driven by the need to:
(A) Provide proportionate non-nuclear options
(B) Save money on conventional forces
(C) Increase the reliance on strategic bombers
(D) Abandon nuclear weapons entirely

195. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) requires both sides to have a vulnerable first-strike capability.
Statement II: MAD contributes to strategic stability by making nuclear war unwinnable.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

196. Which doctrine envisioned a space-based shield capable of intercepting incoming ballistic missiles?
(A) Massive Retaliation
(B) Flexible Response
(C) No First Use (NFU)
(D) Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI)

197. A country heavily dependent on oil imports decides to invest massively in solar energy and strategic petroleum reserves. This action primarily enhances its:
(A) Offensive Military Capability
(B) Cyber Security
(C) Energy Security
(D) Food Security

198. Which of the following is an exception to the traditional elements of state power?
(A) Geography
(B) International NGOs
(C) Population
(D) Military Capacity

199. If a terrorist group releases a deadly virus in a major metropolitan transit system, they are employing:
(A) Conventional warfare
(B) Cyber terrorism
(C) Electronic warfare
(D) Biological warfare / Bioterrorism

200. Identify the correct statement regarding India's Maritime Doctrine.
(A) It recognizes the strategic importance of choke points like the Strait of Malacca.
(B) It focuses exclusively on defending the immediate coastline.
(C) It prohibits the use of submarines.
(D) It restricts naval operations strictly to the Arabian Sea.

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201. The concept of 'Peacebuilding' is most closely associated with the work of former UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in his 1992 report "An Agenda for Peace":
(A) Kofi Annan
(B) Ban Ki-moon
(C) Boutros Boutros-Ghali
(D) Dag Hammarskjöld

advanced information technology into military systems.

Statement II: The RMA has completely eliminated the "fog of war" and friction in contemporary conflicts.

In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

131. Which non-traditional security threat is primarily concerned with the outbreak and spread of infectious diseases like COVID-19?
(A) Food Security
(B) Environmental Security
(C) Health Security
(D) Cyber Security

132. Identify the correct pair regarding elements of Kautilya's thought:
(A) Saptanga - Seven oceans
(B) Mandala - Agricultural techniques
(C) Matsya Nyaya - Rule of the strong protecting the weak
(D) Upayas - Sama, Dana, Bheda, Danda

133. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):

Assertion (A): Asymmetric warfare has become a prominent feature of the 21st-century conflict environment.

Reason (R): Weaker non-state actors utilize unconventional tactics to exploit the vulnerabilities of technologically superior conventional militaries.

In the light of the above, choose the correct answer:

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

134. Which of the following is an incorrect statement about 'Peacebuilding'?
(A) It focuses on structural changes to prevent conflict recurrence.
(B) It involves fostering social and economic development.
(C) It often requires long-term commitment from the international community.
(D) It is synonymous with temporary ceasefires.

135. If a state employs economic sanctions and trade embargoes against another state to achieve political goals, it is using tools of:
(A) Soft Power
(B) Smart Power
(C) Guerrilla Tactics
(D) Hard Power / Economic Statecraft

136. Which thinker is most associated with the realist view that the state must prioritize survival above all, often using deceit and force if necessary?
(A) Niccolò Machiavelli
(B) Immanuel Kant
(C) Woodrow Wilson
(D) Mahatma Gandhi

137. Which of the following is an exception to the common methods of information warfare?
(A) Cyber espionage
(B) Electronic jamming of communications
(C) Direct artillery bombardment of enemy trenches
(D) Psychological operations (PsyOps)

138. Consider the following statements on strategic doctrines:
1. Deterrence aims to prevent an action by threatening retaliation.
2. Compellence aims to force an adversary to stop or change an action.
3. Massive Retaliation proved highly effective in deterring low-level insurgencies.
4. Flexible Response required maintaining robust conventional forces.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 3, and 4 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, and 3 only

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211. Which of the following is an exception to the tenets of India's nuclear doctrine?
(A) No First Use
(B) Massive retaliation to a first strike
(C) Credible minimum deterrence
(D) Preemptive nuclear strikes against non-nuclear states

212. Which non-traditional security threat addresses the impact of global warming, rising sea levels, and extreme weather on human populations?
(A) Economic Security model
(B) Cyber Security protocols
(C) Energy Security network
(D) Environmental Security threat

213. Consider the following statements regarding Strategic Bombing theorists:
1. Douhet believed air power alone could win wars by destroying enemy cities and morale.
2. Mitchell proved the vulnerability of naval vessels to air attacks.
3. Seversky advocated for defensive air postures over offensive ones.
4. Strategic bombing was heavily utilized during WWII.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 3, and 4 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, and 3 only

214. What is the fundamental mechanism of 'Deterrence'?
(A) Launching a surprise attack
(B) Threatening unacceptable costs to persuade an opponent not to act
(C) Signing a peace treaty
(D) Disarming unilaterally

215. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Disarmament and arms control are identical concepts.
Statement II: Arms control seeks to manage arms races, whereas disarmament seeks to reduce or eliminate weapons.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

216. Which scholar is known for the concept of 'Realpolitik', emphasizing pragmatic diplomacy based on power rather than ideals?
(A) Henry Kissinger
(B) Woodrow Wilson
(C) John Locke
(D) Immanuel Kant

217. Identify the incorrect statement regarding 'Low Intensity Conflict' (LIC).
(A) It involves struggles for political, social, or economic power.
(B) It operates below the threshold of conventional war.
(C) It often encompasses insurgency and counter-insurgency.
(D) It primarily relies on strategic nuclear weapons.

218. Consider the following statements about the Evolution of Security Doctrines:
1. The National Missile Defense (NMD) aims to protect the US homeland from limited ballistic missile attacks.
2. Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) stabilized the Cold War by making nuclear war mutually suicidal.
3. Flexible Response allowed for tailored military responses.
4. Massive Retaliation remains the primary US nuclear doctrine today.
5. SDI was a completely successful and fully deployed system.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3 only
(B) 2, 4, and 5 only
(C) 1, 3, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only

219. The process of transitioning from conflict to peace by addressing the underlying structural issues is known as:
(A) Peacekeeping
(B) Peacemaking
(C) Peace enforcement

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and the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI). In an escalating strategic standoff, the doctrine of MAD posits that a full-scale deployment of nuclear weapons by two opposing sides would result in the complete annihilation of both the attacker and the defender. This grim equilibrium acts as a deterrent. To mitigate the rigidity of MAD, the doctrine of Flexible Response was introduced into the evolution of strategic doctrines. Flexible Response allows a state to react to aggression across a spectrum of warfare, including conventional and low-intensity methods, rather than immediately resorting to maximum nuclear force. In a defensive scenario, a state might also pursue the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) and National Missile Defence (NMD). SDI represents a shift toward developing anti-ballistic missile systems designed to intercept incoming threats from space, fundamentally challenging the vulnerability required by MAD. This evolution of strategic doctrines illustrates a trajectory from relying on the guarantee of mutual annihilation under MAD to adopting calibrated military options through Flexible Response, and ultimately attempting to secure unilateral protection via the advanced technological frameworks of SDI and NMD.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

276. According to the doctrine of MAD, what is the outcome of a full-scale deployment of nuclear weapons?
(A) Complete annihilation of both sides
(B) The immediate mitigation of strategic rigidity and nuclear posture
(C) The interception of incoming threats from space and high altitudes
(D) Unilateral protection of the defending state from all ballistic attacks

277. Why was the doctrine of Flexible Response introduced into the evolution of strategic doctrines?
(A) To guarantee mutual annihilation
(B) To intercept incoming threats from space
(C) To eliminate the need for conventional methods
(D) To mitigate the rigidity of MAD

278. What does Flexible Response allow a state to do in response to aggression?
(A) React immediately with maximum nuclear force against all aggressors
(B) React across a spectrum of warfare methods
(C) Develop anti-ballistic missile systems exclusively for national defense
(D) Challenge the vulnerability required by the global SDI framework model

279. What does the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) represent in the evolution of strategic doctrines?
(A) A commitment to a full-scale nuclear standoff and mutual destruction
(B) The restriction of a state to conventional warfare only in all conflicts
(C) Intercepting incoming space-based threats
(D) The reliance on the guarantee of mutual annihilation through nuclear arms

280. How does SDI fundamentally challenge the strategic equilibrium established by MAD?
(A) By advocating for the immediate and total deployment of nuclear weapons
(B) By restricting military reactions to low-intensity and irregular methods
(C) By embracing the absolute necessity of mutual destruction for stability
(D) Securing unilateral protection over vulnerability

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The evolution of India's Security Policies, alongside its Nuclear and Maritime Doctrines, reflects a continuous adaptation to regional and global security environments. An assessment of India's strategic posture demonstrates that its security policies are designed to safeguard territorial integrity while managing complex neighborhood dynamics. Within the evolution of India's Security Policies, the formulation of a distinct Nuclear Doctrine holds central importance. This doctrine is characterized by a commitment to a "No First Use" policy and the maintenance of a credible minimum deterrence, ensuring that nuclear capabilities are strictly utilized for retaliatory purposes against nuclear aggression. Concurrently, the evolution of India's Maritime Doctrine emphasizes the necessity of securing vital sea lanes of communication and

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Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(C) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

229. What is the cause of 'Structural Violence' as defined by Johan Galtung?
(A) Direct physical harm inflicted by a soldier
(B) Natural disasters
(C) Social and economic structures that inherently disadvantage and harm certain groups
(D) Cyber attacks on personal computers

230. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Sun Tzu's strategic thought is heavily focused on the absolute destruction of the enemy's army in a pitched battle.
Statement II: Sun Tzu advocates for the use of deception, intelligence, and maneuver to defeat the enemy without fighting.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

231. Which of the following best defines the term 'Information Warfare'?
(A) Physical destruction of libraries
(B) The use of propaganda through newspapers only
(C) The banning of all digital technology
(D) Exploiting or defending information systems

232. Identify the incorrect pair regarding doctrines:
(A) Preemptive Strike - Waiting to be attacked before responding
(B) SDI - Defensive missile shield
(C) MAD - Deterrence through fear of total annihilation
(D) Flexible Response - Multiple options for retaliation

233. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA) favors technologically advanced nations.
Reason (R): RMA relies heavily on sophisticated sensors, precision weapons, and network-centric systems that require massive R&D investments.
In the light of the above, choose the correct answer:
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

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234. In conflict resolution, a 'Win-Win' outcome is most closely associated with which type of negotiation?
(A) Integrative negotiation (Principled negotiation)
(B) Positional bargaining process
(C) Distributive negotiation model
(D) Coercive diplomacy strategy

235. An application of the 'Security Dilemma' can be seen when:
(A) Two states sign a free trade agreement.
(B) A state disarms its military completely.
(C) Nations share intelligence to fight a common pandemic.
(D) State A buys defensive surface-to-air missiles, causing State B to feel threatened and increase its bomber fleet.

236. Which of the following is an exception to the principles of India's current foreign and security policy?
(A) Strategic Autonomy
(B) Expansionist territorial ambitions
(C) Participation in UN Peacekeeping
(D) Multi-alignment

237. Consider the following statements about Chemical Warfare:
1. It utilizes the toxic properties of chemical substances to kill, injure, or incapacitate.
2. The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) aims to eliminate chemical weapons globally.

(A) An activity to be avoided at all costs
(B) An indispensable tool for a ruler's survival
(C) An element purely reliant on rational political purpose
(D) A mechanism strictly for continuing peaceful diplomacy

263. How does Carl von Clausewitz conceptualize war in his strategic thought?
(A) As an action entirely separate from political activity
(B) As a ruthless maneuvering devoid of political purpose
(C) As the continuation of political activity by other means
(D) As an absolute tool for eliminating political rivals

264. According to the analytical model of Clausewitz, what constitutes the "trinity" of war?
(A) Authority, rivals, and military action
(B) Survival, expansion, and pragmatic maneuvering
(C) Force, elimination, and political activity
(D) Violence, chance, and rational political purpose

265. Applying Clausewitz's strategic thought requires military operations to be strictly subordinate to what?
(A) Specific political objectives
(B) Absolute authority
(C) Ruthless political maneuvering
(D) The elimination of rivals

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The evolution of strategic thoughts concerning spatial dominance highlights the theoretical contributions of H. Mackinder, A.T. Mahan, and G. Douhet. A strategic simulation analyzing territorial control integrates these distinct theories to project geopolitical supremacy. A.T. Mahan's strategic thought argues that command of the sea is the primary catalyst for national power, necessitating robust naval fleets and maritime trade routes. In contrast, H. Mackinder shifts the evolution of strategic thoughts toward the continental landmass, positing that controlling the "Heartland" of Eurasia guarantees global dominion, marginalizing the ultimate efficacy of sea power. Adding a vertical dimension to this evolution, G. Douhet's strategic thought asserts that the advent of air power revolutionizes warfare. Douhet argues that commanding the air allows for direct, devastating strikes on an adversary's vital centers, rendering land and naval forces secondary. In a multi-domain conflict scenario, a state must evaluate whether to invest heavily in Mahan's maritime dominance to secure supply lines, fortify Mackinder's pivotal landmass to ensure geopolitical stability, or prioritize Douhet's aerial supremacy to bypass traditional defenses. This evolution of strategic thoughts demonstrates the complex interplay between naval, land, and aerial dominance in military strategy.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

266. According to A.T. Mahan's strategic thought, what is the primary catalyst for national power?
(A) Controlling the "Heartland" of Eurasia
(B) Command of the sea and maritime trade
(C) Commanding the air to strike vital centers
(D) Bypassing traditional continental defenses

267. What does H. Mackinder's strategic thought posit regarding global dominion?
(A) It requires the utilization of devastating strikes via strategic air power
(B) Controlling the "Heartland" of Eurasia
(C) It is achieved through the development of robust and modern naval fleets
(D) It relies on marginalizing the continental landmass for global dominion

268. How does G. Douhet's strategic thought view the advent of air power?
(A) Direct strikes on an adversary's vital centers
(B) It functions as a secondary tool to support naval fleets and trade
(C) It depends entirely on securing maritime trade routes and sea lanes
(D) It guarantees global dominion through controlling the Eurasian Heartland

269. What is a consequence of controlling the "Heartland" according to Mackinder's theory?
(A) The immediate bypass of traditional continental and regional defenses
(B) The necessity to construct robust and expansive national naval fleets

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direct military confrontation.

Statement II: Modern terrorism is entirely confined within national borders and has no transnational links.

In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

246. Which strategic concept is associated with Giulio Douhet?

(A) The primacy of naval blockades
(B) Air command and strategic bombing
(C) The use of guerrilla warfare to exhaust the enemy
(D) The establishment of a global nuclear defense shield

247. Match List I with List II:

List I: (Conflict Resolution Concept)

P. Arbitration
Q. Mediation
R. Negotiation
S. Peacekeeping

List II: (Definition)

1. A neutral third party imposes a legally binding decision
2. A process where a third party assists voluntary settlement
3. Direct dialogue between parties to reach agreement
4. Deployment of personnel to maintain a ceasefire

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

248. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):

Assertion (A): The concept of 'Human Security' broadens the definition of security.

Reason (R): It shifts the focus from defending state borders to protecting individuals from a wide range of threats including poverty, disease, and political repression.

In the light of the above, choose the correct answer:

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

249. Which of the following best describes the 'Revolution in Military Affairs' (RMA)?

(A) A political uprising within a military regime
(B) The global elimination of nuclear weapons
(C) Tech-driven change in war character
(D) A return to trench warfare tactics

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250. An application of India's current maritime strategy involves focusing heavily on which region to counter emerging geopolitical challenges?

(A) Indo-Pacific and the Indian Ocean
(B) The Atlantic Ocean
(C) The Arctic Circle
(D) The Mediterranean Sea

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In contemporary international relations, the concepts and models of national and international security have undergone significant transformations. A theoretical model evaluating state behavior reveals that national security traditionally prioritized military defense of territorial boundaries. However, the components of international security have expanded to necessitate collaborative frameworks. In a scenario where a coalition of states forms an alliance, the model illustrates a shift from isolated defense strategies to collective international security architectures. The essential components of this new model dictate that safeguarding a nation's sovereignty is intricately linked to the stability of the broader international system. Analysts observing this transition note that traditional models of national security, focusing solely on internal capability enhancement and border protection, are insufficient. Instead, comprehensive components now integrate

diplomatic alliances and mutual defense treaties to construct robust international security models. This case demonstrates that modern national security cannot be achieved in a vacuum. State policies must adapt to international security models that prioritize interdependence. The conceptual shift from exclusive national defense to inclusive international security frameworks requires policymakers to balance sovereign interests with global stability requirements, thereby redefining the core components and operational models of security in the modern era.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

251. Which shift in national security models is highlighted in the passage?
(A) From diplomatic alliances to internal capability enhancement
(B) From isolated defense strategies to collective international frameworks
(C) From interdependent policies to exclusive national border protection
(D) From mutual defense treaties to strict military defense strategies

252. What is the primary traditional focus of national security mentioned in the source?
(A) Military defense of territorial boundaries
(B) Developing robust diplomatic alliances
(C) Ensuring economic stability requirements
(D) Promoting inclusive international security frameworks

253. According to the passage, what do comprehensive components of modern security integrate?
(A) Isolated defense strategies and regional border check protocols
(B) Internal capability enhancement and exclusive defense systems
(C) Diplomatic alliances and defense treaties
(D) Sovereign vacuums and isolated border protection procedures

254. Why are traditional models of national security considered insufficient in the modern scenario?
(A) They prioritize collective international security architectures
(B) They balance sovereign interests with global stability
(C) They intricately link a nation's sovereignty to international stability
(D) They focus solely on internal capability and border protection

255. What must policymakers balance to successfully adapt to modern international security models?
(A) Internal capability with exclusive national defense
(B) Military defense with isolated border protection
(C) Sovereign interests with global stability requirements
(D) Traditional security models with capability enhancement

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The evolution of strategic thoughts provides foundational frameworks for understanding statecraft and conflict. In a comparative academic analysis, the classical doctrines of Kautilya and Sun Tzu illustrate distinct yet complementary approaches to strategy. Kautilya's strategic thought heavily emphasizes the rigorous structural administration of the state, intelligence gathering, and pragmatic diplomacy to secure the kingdom's interests. His framework evaluates the meticulous calculation of power dynamics among neighboring states. Conversely, Sun Tzu's strategic thought prioritizes the psychological dimensions of warfare, emphasizing deception, flexibility, and the supreme importance of subduing the enemy without engaging in direct combat. In a hypothetical scenario where a state seeks regional dominance, applying Kautilya's doctrine would involve deploying emissaries and spies to disrupt enemy alliances, thereby weakening the adversary internally. Utilizing Sun Tzu's evolution of strategic thought, the same state would manipulate the adversary's perception, creating illusions of weakness or strength to precipitate a bloodless victory. Both models reflect a profound evolution in strategic thinking, where the integration of Kautilya's bureaucratic statecraft and Sun Tzu's tactical maneuvering forms a comprehensive guide for achieving strategic objectives without relying solely on conventional military force.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

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256. Which element is a heavy emphasis of Kautilya's strategic thought according to the passage?
(A) Psychological dimensions and tactical maneuvers of active warfare
(B) Administration and intelligence gathering
(C) Creating illusions of weakness or strength in tactical battle
(D) Subduing the enemy without engaging in diplomatic negotiations

257. In the context of the source, what does Sun Tzu's strategic thought primarily prioritize?
(A) Meticulous calculation of bureaucratic power dynamics
(B) Rigorous structural administration of the state
(C) Deploying emissaries to secure regional dominance
(D) Psychological dimensions of warfare and deception

258. How would a state applying Kautilya's doctrine disrupt enemy alliances in the scenario provided?
(A) By deploying emissaries and spies
(B) By engaging the enemy in direct, conventional combat
(C) By creating illusions of immense military strength
(D) By relying solely on conventional military force

259. What is the ultimate goal of manipulating an adversary's perception in Sun Tzu's framework?
(A) Enhancing bureaucratic statecraft and state administration
(B) Expanding structural administration of the internal state
(C) Precipitating a bloodless victory
(D) Initiating a direct and conventional military combat mission

260. What does the integration of Kautilya's and Sun Tzu's models achieve according to the passage?
(A) Achieving objectives without solely relying on force
(B) A rejection of pragmatic diplomacy in favor of active combat missions
(C) A framework dependent entirely on conventional military force operations
(D) A strategy focused purely on engaging in direct and violent warfare

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In analyzing the evolution of strategic thoughts, a scholarly evaluation of Carl von Clausewitz and Machiavelli reveals critical insights into the nature of war and state power. A strategic case study on state conflict demonstrates Machiavelli's principle that the preservation and expansion of state power justify utilizing any means necessary, emphasizing pragmatic and often ruthless political maneuvering. His strategic thought positions military force as an indispensable tool for a ruler's survival. In contrast, Carl von Clausewitz approaches the evolution of strategic thoughts by conceptualizing war as the continuation of political activity by other means. Clausewitz's analytical model emphasizes the "trinity" of violence, chance, and rational political purpose. If a modern state engages in armed conflict, a Machiavellian approach would dictate a focus on securing absolute authority and eliminating rivals to consolidate power. However, applying Clausewitz's strategic thought requires the state to ensure that military operations remain strictly subordinate to specific political objectives. The evolution from Machiavelli's survival-centric power politics to Clausewitz's structured integration of political intent and military action highlights a significant shift in strategic thought, necessitating a delicate balance between absolute force and rational policy implementation during state conflicts.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

261. How does the passage describe Machiavelli's principle regarding the preservation of state power?
(A) It relies entirely on the elements of chance and violence
(B) It requires that military force remain subordinate to diplomacy
(C) It conceptualizes survival as an avoidance of political maneuvering
(D) It justifies utilizing any means necessary for survival

262. In Machiavelli's strategic thought, what is the designated role of military force?

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(D) Peacebuilding

220. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Cyber attacks are always state-sponsored and never carried out by non-state actors.
Statement II: The asymmetric nature of cyber warfare allows small groups or individuals to inflict disproportionate damage.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

221. Which of the following represents an application of 'Compellence'?
(A) Threatening to retaliate if an enemy crosses a border
(B) Building a defensive wall
(C) Bombing to force troop withdrawal from previously occupied territory
(D) Signing a mutual non-aggression pact

222. Identify the incorrect pair regarding Non-Traditional Security:
(A) Pandemics - Health Security
(B) Fossil Fuel Scarcity - Energy Security
(C) Climate Change - Environmental Security
(D) Transnational Organized Crime - Traditional Military Security

223. Arrange the following strategic developments in correct chronological order:
1. Formulation of the Truman Doctrine
2. Announcement of the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI)
3. Adoption of Flexible Response Doctrine
4. The articulation of Massive Retaliation
Choose the correct answer:
(A) 1, 4, 3, 2
(B) 1, 3, 4, 2
(C) 4, 1, 3, 2
(D) 1, 4, 2, 3

224. Which of the following is an exception to the elements of Kautilya's Mandala theory?
(A) Vijigishu (The Conqueror)
(B) Udasina (The Democratic Electorate)
(C) Mitra (The Ally)
(D) Ari (The Enemy)

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225. If a nation is employing diplomacy, economic sanctions, and psychological operations to deter an adversary, it is using elements of:
(A) Absolute Military Hegemony
(B) Smart Power / Comprehensive Security
(C) Guerrilla Tactics
(D) Total War

226. Identify the correct statement regarding 'Nuclear Disarmament'.
(A) Complete elimination of all nuclear weapons
(B) It refers to the regulation of nuclear arsenals.
(C) The NPT explicitly forbids disarmament.
(D) It has been achieved globally.

227. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Food insecurity can lead to violent internal and cross-border conflicts.
Reason (R): Scarcity of essential resources often exacerbates social inequalities and political instability, prompting riots or insurgency.
In the light of the above, choose the correct answer:
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

228. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Security Concept)
P. Collective Security
Q. Balance of Power
R. Hegemony
S. Non-alignment
List II: (Feature)
1. Remaining independent of major power blocs
2. An attack on one is an attack on all
3. Preventing any single state from dominating
4. Dominance by a single major power

(C) Marginalizing the ultimate efficacy of sea power
(D) The rendering of land forces as completely secondary to maritime power

270. What strategic choice represents prioritizing Douhet's aerial supremacy in a multi-domain conflict?
(A) Securing maritime supply lines
(B) Fortifying a pivotal landmass
(C) Marginalizing the "Heartland"
(D) Bypassing traditional defenses

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The evolution of strategic doctrines has significantly influenced state behavior regarding conflict prevention. An analysis of defensive postures reveals the transition from Massive Retaliation to broader concepts of Deterrence. In a theoretical confrontation between two heavily armed states, the doctrine of Massive Retaliation dictates that any aggressive action by one state will be met with a disproportionately large and devastating counter-strike. This doctrine aims to prevent aggression by ensuring the costs of initiating conflict are unbearably high. However, the broader evolution of strategic doctrines refines this approach through general Deterrence, which focuses on maintaining credible military capabilities to discourage any adversarial aggression before it occurs. In a practical scenario, if a state adopts Massive Retaliation, it commits to a rigid, all-or-nothing response, which may lack credibility if the initial aggression is minor. Consequently, the strategic doctrine of Deterrence evolves to encompass varied capabilities, ensuring that threats of retaliation are both proportionate and believable. This evolution demonstrates a shift from a singular, catastrophic threat mechanism to a more nuanced strategic doctrine of Deterrence, requiring states to carefully calibrate their military capabilities and communicable intent to maintain stability and prevent the outbreak of war.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

271. What does the doctrine of Massive Retaliation dictate in response to aggressive action?
(A) A minor and proportionate defensive action against limited aggression
(B) A diplomatic mediation of the initiated conflict through global bodies
(C) A disproportionately large counter-strike
(D) A measured and purely conventional counter-attack against adversaries

272. What is the primary aim of the Massive Retaliation doctrine?
(A) To engage in minor skirmishes to test capabilities
(B) To prevent aggression by making costs unbearably high
(C) To encourage adversarial aggression through rigid responses
(D) To ensure retaliation is proportionate to minor aggressions

273. According to the passage, what is the focus of general Deterrence?
(A) Launching an immediate, all-or-nothing nuclear response to any threat
(B) Initiating minor aggression to test adversarial resolve and capability
(C) Transitioning to a disproportionately large and massive retaliatory strike
(D) Discouraging aggression through credible capabilities

274. Why might the doctrine of Massive Retaliation lack credibility in a practical scenario?
(A) Committing to an all-or-nothing response
(B) It relies entirely on nuanced diplomatic negotiations and statecraft
(C) It ensures retaliation is proportionate to the initial tactical attack
(D) It discourages the development of varied and nuanced military capabilities

275. The strategic doctrine of Deterrence requires threats of retaliation to be what?
(A) Unbearably high and structurally rigid
(B) All-or-nothing and strategically minor
(C) Proportionate and believable
(D) Singular and catastrophically destructive

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Further progression in the evolution of strategic doctrines encompasses the concepts of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD), Flexible Response,

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3. Nerve agents like Sarin are examples of chemical weapons.
4. Chemical weapons are considered standard, legal weapons for modern conventional infantry.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3 only
(B) 1, 3, and 4 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, and 4 only

238. What is the primary focus of 'Gender Security' in international relations?
(A) Ensuring equal pay in civilian jobs
(B) Mandating female conscription in all militaries
(C) Banning men from serving as diplomats
(D) Recognizing differential conflict impact and ensuring female participation

239. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Track I diplomacy involves official governmental negotiations.
Statement II: Track II diplomacy is strictly limited to military commanders negotiating ceasefires.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

240. Identify the correct statement regarding 'Nuclear Deterrence'.
(A) It requires complete secrecy of one's nuclear capabilities.
(B) It depends on the credibility of the threat and the capability to execute it.
(C) It aims to encourage the enemy to attack first.
(D) It works best against irrational actors.

241. Which of the following is a direct cause of 'Energy Insecurity'?
(A) Diversification of energy sources
(B) High dependence on imported fossil fuels
(C) Transitioning to domestic renewable energy grids
(D) Reducing overall national energy consumption

242. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the 'Evolution of Strategic Doctrines'.
(A) Massive Retaliation threatened full nuclear response for any attack.
(B) The Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) was largely criticized for potentially destabilizing MAD.
(C) Flexible Response allowed the US to respond to various levels of conflict without immediately resorting to nuclear weapons.
(D) Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) encouraged defensive anti-ballistic missile systems.

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243. Consider the following statements regarding Non-Traditional Security:
1. It challenges the state-centric approach of traditional security.
2. Cyber terrorism is considered a non-traditional threat.
3. It argues that environmental degradation can be as threatening to survival as a military invasion.
4. It completely rejects the need for national defense forces.
5. The concept of 'Human Security' is a key element of this paradigm.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
(B) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(C) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

244. The doctrine of 'No First Use' (NFU) primarily aims to:
(A) Guarantee that a nation will use nuclear weapons in a preemptive strike
(B) Save costs on conventional military hardware
(C) Justify the unlimited expansion of nuclear arsenals
(D) Assuring non-coercive weapon use

245. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Terrorism relies on asymmetric tactics and psychological impact rather than

expanding strategic reach across oceanic regions. In a contemporary security scenario, India must synchronize these doctrines to project stability. The Maritime Doctrine guides naval deployments to secure maritime trade and deter naval adversaries, while the Nuclear Doctrine provides a strategic umbrella that discourages large-scale existential threats. The integrated evolution of India's Security Policies, Nuclear Doctrine, and Maritime Doctrine requires an intricate balance of defensive restraint, strategic autonomy, and proactive naval positioning to navigate contemporary regional security challenges effectively.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

281. What characterization defines India's distinct Nuclear Doctrine according to the passage?
(A) A "No First Use" policy and credible minimum deterrence
(B) A commitment to first strike and maximum deterrence
(C) An emphasis on proactive nuclear deployments across oceans
(D) A strategy of aggressive territorial expansion

282. Under India's Nuclear Doctrine, for what purpose are nuclear capabilities strictly utilized?
(A) Preemptive strikes against naval adversaries
(B) Retaliatory purposes against nuclear aggression
(C) Expanding strategic reach across oceanic regions
(D) Managing routine neighborhood dynamics

283. What is the primary emphasis of the evolution of India's Maritime Doctrine?
(A) Formulating a strict "No First Use" policy for all maritime naval forces
(B) Securing sea lanes and strategic reach
(C) Providing a strategic nuclear umbrella over the regional oceanic zones
(D) Ensuring territorial integrity through minimal deterrence and diplomacy

284. How does the Maritime Doctrine guide naval deployments in a contemporary security scenario?
(A) By securing maritime trade and deterring naval adversaries
(B) By launching retaliatory nuclear strikes from sea
(C) By deterring large-scale existential threats unilaterally
(D) By strictly limiting deployments to territorial waters

285. What must the integrated evolution of India's doctrines delicately balance to manage regional challenges?
(A) Proactive nuclear aggression and absolute autonomy over territorial boundaries
(B) Minimum deterrence and unrestricted maritime trade within international waters
(C) Defensive restraint and strategic autonomy
(D) Preemptive strikes, naval disarmament, and nuclear escalation in contested areas

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The emergence of New Modes of Warfare has fundamentally transformed the landscape of military engagement. A strategic analysis of contemporary conflict highlights the shift from solely Conventional warfare to Low Intensity Conflicts and Information and Communication warfare. In a modern crisis scenario, state and non-state actors increasingly bypass Conventional warfare, which relies on traditional battlefield confrontations. Instead, they engage in Low Intensity Conflicts, utilizing irregular tactics to destabilize adversaries without triggering a full-scale war. Furthermore, the Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA) integrates advanced technologies into these new modes. Information and Communication warfare exemplifies this revolution, where combatants target critical data infrastructures to disrupt communications and spread disinformation. Concurrently, the lingering threats of Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Warfare require continuous defensive readiness. In a simulated threat environment, an adversary might employ Information and Communication warfare to paralyze a target nation's command systems while simultaneously sponsoring Low Intensity Conflicts along its borders. The Revolution in Military Affairs dictates that to counter these New Modes of Warfare, states must develop comprehensive defense mechanisms that secure technological networks, manage asymmetrical threats, and maintain readiness

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against the catastrophic potential of Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Warfare.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

286. Which form of warfare relies heavily on traditional battlefield confrontations?
(A) Low Intensity Conflicts
(B) Information and Communication warfare
(C) Cyber warfare
(D) Conventional warfare

287. Why do state and non-state actors utilize irregular tactics in Low Intensity Conflicts?
(A) To trigger a full-scale conventional war immediately between states
(B) To launch catastrophic biological strikes against civilian populations
(C) Destabilizing without triggering full-scale war
(D) To secure technological networks and protect critical data architectures

288. According to the passage, what exemplifies the Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA)?
(A) Engaging strictly in traditional battlefield confrontations and combat
(B) Targeting data infrastructures to disrupt systems
(C) Lowering defensive readiness against chemical warfare and toxin agents
(D) Avoiding the use of advanced technologies in modern combat scenarios

289. In the simulated threat environment, how is Information and Communication warfare utilized?
(A) To sponsor irregular tactics along borders
(B) To maintain readiness against chemical warfare
(C) To trigger a conventional battlefield confrontation
(D) To paralyze a target nation's command systems

290. What must comprehensive defense mechanisms address to counter New Modes of Warfare?
(A) Securing networks and managing threats
(B) Ensuring conventional confrontation over irregular tactics and methods
(C) Relying entirely on nuclear readiness to deter all potential threats
(D) Bypassing the Revolution in Military Affairs and modern technologies

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The contemporary global environment demands a critical focus on Non-Traditional Security Threats, which transcend conventional military paradigms. A comprehensive security audit reveals that Food and Health Security, Environmental Security, and Energy Security are paramount components of national stability. In a developing region facing severe climatic shifts, Environmental Security is compromised, leading to direct consequences for Food and Health Security. Agricultural failures result in resource scarcity, while the subsequent deterioration of public health strains state infrastructure. Simultaneously, this region must navigate Energy Security challenges, requiring reliable access to power to sustain economic development and social services. Furthermore, Non-Traditional Security Threats encompass Human Security, Gender Security, Cyber Security, and Terrorism. In a scenario where societal structures are weakened by resource scarcity, Human Security and Gender Security are disproportionately impacted, increasing vulnerability among marginalized populations. This instability creates a fertile breeding ground for Terrorism, while compromised state networks heighten risks related to Cyber Security. Effectively mitigating Non-Traditional Security Threats necessitates holistic policy frameworks. States must address Environmental and Energy Security to ensure Food and Health Security, thereby fortifying Human and Gender Security against the compounding threats of Cyber incursions and Terrorism.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

291. According to the passage, what is the direct consequence of compromised Environmental Security?
(A) An increase in conventional military conflicts
(B) Immediate resolution of Energy Security challenges
(C) A negative impact on Food and Health Security

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(D) Enhanced stability of state infrastructure

292. What issue arises from agricultural failures in a region experiencing severe climatic shifts?
(A) Resource scarcity
(B) Decreased risks related to Terrorism
(C) Improved reliable access to power
(D) Hardening of Cyber Security defenses

293. Why is Energy Security considered crucial in the provided scenario?
(A) It functions as a direct deterrent to conventional military attacks from states
(B) It ensures the automatic resolution of all regional climatic and weather shifts
(C) It replaces the need for Food and Health Security in the developing region
(D) Power access to sustain development and services

294. What happens to Human Security and Gender Security when societal structures are weakened by resource scarcity?
(A) They remain stable due to robust policy frameworks and economic investments
(B) Disproportionate impact and increased vulnerability
(C) They transition to conventional military paradigms to secure the territory
(D) They become immune to the risks of Terrorism and violent extremist actions

295. According to the passage, what heightens the risks related to Cyber Security?
(A) Reliable access to power
(B) Holistic policy frameworks
(C) Compromised state networks
(D) Strong state infrastructures

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The mechanisms of Conflict Resolution and Peace are inextricably linked to the structural processes of Arms Control and Disarmament. In an analytical framework addressing international hostilities, Conflict Resolution serves as the diplomatic methodology required to mediate disputes and transition warring parties toward sustainable Peace. A case study of a bilateral border dispute demonstrates that achieving Peace demands more than mere ceasefires; it requires addressing the root causes of tension. To stabilize such a scenario, Arms Control and Disarmament are introduced as critical tools. Arms Control policies focus on regulating and limiting the proliferation of specific weapon systems, thereby preventing uncontrolled arms races and reducing the likelihood of accidental escalations. Concurrently, Disarmament involves the active reduction or complete elimination of existing military arsenals to build mutual trust. In resolving the border dispute, the involved states agree to an Arms Control treaty capping troop deployments, followed by a phased Disarmament process eliminating heavy artillery from the contested zone. This deliberate integration of Arms Control and Disarmament into the broader strategies of Conflict Resolution fundamentally de-escalates military posturing, facilitating a structured diplomatic pathway to achieve and maintain long-term international Peace.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

296. What is the primary function of Conflict Resolution in the analytical framework provided?
(A) Functioning as a primary mechanism for uncontrolled international arms races
(B) Eliminating existing military arsenals independently of diplomatic efforts
(C) Capping troop deployments without building any form of mutual state trust
(D) Mediating disputes through diplomacy

297. What do Arms Control policies primarily focus on regulating?
(A) The proliferation of specific weapon systems
(B) The root causes of bilateral tension
(C) The diplomatic methodology of ceasefires
(D) The elimination of all heavy artillery globally

298. How does Disarmament differ functionally from Arms Control according to the passage?
(A) Disarmament focuses solely on establishing national troop deployment caps
(B) Active reduction or elimination of arsenals
(C) Disarmament regulates specific weapon systems to prevent regional arms races
(D) Disarmament serves as a ceasefire mechanism without building mutual trust

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9. (C) Security interdependence among states in a specific geographic region
Regional security complex theory posits that security concerns do not travel well over long distances, leading to clusters of states with deeply linked safety interests. These complexes are primarily caused by the high degree of security interdependence among geographically proximal nations. In such environments, the actions of one state significantly impact the perceived threats and strategic choices of its neighbors.

10. (A) A.T. Mahan - Sea Power
Alfred Thayer Mahan was a prominent naval strategist who argued that national greatness was inextricably linked to the command of the sea. His work emphasized the importance of naval power for securing maritime trade and achieving global influence. Other thinkers like Kautilya focused on statecraft, while Sun Tzu specialized in the general art of war and strategic deception.

11. (D) Individual spiritual beliefs
Elements of state power in geopolitics typically include tangible factors like geography, natural resources, and industrial capacity, alongside intangible factors like national morale. These components contribute to a nation's ability to influence international events and defend its interests. Individual spiritual beliefs, while important to personal life, are generally not classified as a standard structural element of state power.

12. (B) Balancing
Balancing is a realist strategy where states form alliances or increase their internal capabilities to prevent a rising power from dominating the system. By creating a mutual defense pact, smaller nations aggregate their strength to deter a potential hegemon. This contrasts with bandwagoning, where states join the stronger power, or appeasement, where concessions are made to avoid immediate conflict.

13. (A) 1 and 2 only
Kautilya's Mandala theory provides a sophisticated geometrical model for understanding regional interstate relations and diplomacy. It identifies the Vijigishu as the central aspirational conqueror seeking to expand influence. However, the theory posits that immediate neighbors are natural enemies rather than allies. Furthermore, it advocates for an active and expansionist foreign policy rather than a static or non-expansionist approach.

14. (D) To subdue the enemy without fighting
In Sun Tzu's philosophical approach to warfare, the highest achievement for a commander is to achieve victory through psychological and strategic means. He argues that subduing the enemy's will without engaging in direct, costly physical combat is the supreme art of war. This emphasis on deception and maneuver aims to preserve resources while attaining political and military goals.

15. (A) Kosha - The Territory
The Saptanga theory outlines the seven vital elements of a state, including the ruler, ministers, and the army. In this framework, the term Kosha specifically refers to the treasury or accumulated wealth of the kingdom rather than its physical territory. Territory is instead represented by the term Janapada. Accurate identification of these components is essential for understanding ancient statecraft.

16. (B) Lion and Fox
Niccolò Machiavelli advised that a successful ruler must emulate the qualities of both the lion and the fox to maintain power. The lion represents the use of brute force and courage to deter wolves, while the fox symbolizes the cunning and intelligence needed to recognize traps. This combination of strength and strategy is essential for navigating treacherous political environments.

17. (B) He emphasized geometric principles, interior lines of operation, and logistics.
Antoine-Henri Jomini was a major military theorist who believed that warfare could be understood through scientific and mathematical principles. He emphasized the importance of geometric patterns on the battlefield, the use of interior lines of operation, and the systematic organization of logistics. His approach focused on prescribing specific rules and methods to ensure victory through efficient military maneuvers.

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ANSWERS

1. (B) Safeguarding territorial integrity against external military threats
Traditional national security focuses on protecting the physical borders and sovereignty of a state from external military aggression. This perspective emphasizes the importance of military power, defense capabilities, and state-centric strategies. It views the state as the primary actor and referent object, ensuring its survival against foreign invasion or territorial threats through the use of organized armed forces.

2. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The traditional model of international security prioritizes the state and military strength as central components of defense. In contrast, human security represents a paradigm shift by focusing on individual well-being and protection from various threats like poverty and disease. Therefore, characterizing human security as being concerned only with state borders is inaccurate, as it prioritizes people over territories.

3. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
Strategic thought is shaped by various scholars and their distinct theories. Barry Buzan developed the securitization framework within the Copenhagen School. Kenneth Waltz founded neorealism, focusing on the anarchic structure of the international system. Kautilya authored the Mandala theory regarding regional statecraft in ancient India. Carl von Clausewitz wrote the influential military treatise titled On War during the nineteenth century.

4. (D) Absolute biological determinism
The securitization framework developed by the Copenhagen School analyzes how specific issues are constructed as existential threats through speech acts. This model requires a securitizing actor, a referent object that needs protection, and functional actors who influence the process. It is a social and political construct rather than a theory rooted in absolute biological determinism or genetic factors.

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5. (C) Comprehensive Security
Comprehensive security expands the definition of safety to include non-military sectors such as economic stability, resource management, and social well-being. Focusing on energy routes and oil diversification demonstrates a strategy that integrates economic interests with national stability. This approach acknowledges that a nation's strength depends on securing vital resources alongside maintaining traditional military readiness to ensure long-term survival.

6. (B) It always guarantees permanent peace between rival nations
The security dilemma occurs when actions taken by one state to increase its own safety are perceived as threatening by others. This often results in an escalating arms race and increased tension within an anarchic international system. It is characterized by mutual distrust and uncertainty, making the assertion that it guarantees permanent peace between rival nations fundamentally incorrect and illogical.

7. (D) League of Nations and the United Nations
Collective security is a diplomatic arrangement where a group of nations agrees that an attack on one member is considered an attack on all. This principle served as the foundational basis for the League of Nations after the First World War and was subsequently refined within the United Nations Charter. It seeks to maintain global peace through institutionalized cooperation.

8. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Modern national security has evolved significantly due to the complexities introduced by globalization and technological advancement. While traditional defense remains vital, nations must now address non-traditional threats like cyber-attacks, climate change, and global pandemics. These challenges transcend physical borders and require multifaceted responses, confirming that the scope of security has expanded beyond purely military concerns to protect society.

299. In the case study, what is the first step taken to stabilize the bilateral border dispute?
(A) Eliminating heavy artillery from the contested zone
(B) Agreeing to an Arms Control treaty capping troop deployments
(C) Addressing the root causes of tension through military posturing
(D) Bypassing Conflict Resolution to implement instant Disarmament

300. What is the ultimate result of deliberately integrating Arms Control and Disarmament into Conflict Resolution?
(A) Establishing a pathway to long-term Peace
(B) It triggers an accidental escalation of hostilities between the states
(C) It replaces the need for sustainable Peace and continued diplomacy
(D) It maintains military posturing at the contested international border

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18. (A) 1, 2, and 4 only
Carl von Clausewitz defined war as a continuation of politics and introduced the concept of the paradoxical trinity involving emotion, chance, and reason. He also identified the center of gravity as the source of an enemy's strength. However, he viewed friction as a fundamental force that complicates military plans and acknowledged that total war is often constrained by politics.

19. (C) Emotion, Chance, and Reason
The paradoxical trinity is a foundational concept in Clausewitzian theory that explains the complex nature of warfare. It consists of primordial violence or emotion associated with the people, the play of chance and probability managed by the commander, and the rational subordination of war to political policy. Balancing these three elements is necessary for understanding the conduct of conflict.

20. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Halford Mackinder's Heartland Theory emphasized the strategic importance of the Eurasian landmass, stating that control over Eastern Europe was the gateway to global dominance. Conversely, Alfred Thayer Mahan prioritized the command of the sea as the primary factor in national power. Therefore, claiming that Mahan valued the heartland over the sea is a mischaracterization of his maritime-focused strategy.

21. (C) Giulio Douhet
Giulio Douhet was an Italian air power theorist who famously argued that command of the air is the essential condition for victory in modern warfare. He posited that the ability to dominate the skies would allow a nation to strike an enemy's industrial and civilian centers directly, potentially ending conflicts quickly by breaking the opponent's will and capacity.

22. (B) Using strategic bombing independent of ground forces to destroy capacity
William Mitchell was a vocal advocate for the independence and supremacy of air power in military operations. He believed that strategic bombing could destroy an enemy's industrial infrastructure and ability to wage war without the need for traditional, large-scale ground engagements. His theories laid the groundwork for the development of autonomous air forces capable of conducting decisive long-range missions.

23. (B) 2, 1, 3, 4
The history of strategic thought spans several millennia and diverse cultures. Sun Tzu's influential work emerged in ancient China during the Spring and Autumn period. Kautilya authored the Arthashastra in ancient India several centuries later. Niccolò Machiavelli contributed to political and military theory during the European Renaissance, while Carl von Clausewitz developed his comprehensive theories during the nineteenth century.

24. (A) Destruction of civilian centers and ethical violations
Giulio Douhet's theory of strategic bombing advocated for targeting an enemy's vital centers, including industrial areas and civilian populations, to induce psychological collapse. A major negative consequence of applying this doctrine indiscriminately is the massive destruction of civilian infrastructure and widespread casualties. This approach often leads to significant ethical violations and has been criticized under international humanitarian law.

25. (C) Air power and long-range strategic bombing
Alexander de Seversky was a key proponent of air power during the mid-twentieth century. He argued that the advent of long-range aircraft had fundamentally changed the nature of global strategy, making command of the air more important than naval or land power. His work focused on the necessity of developing strategic bombing capabilities with global reach to ensure security.

26. (A) Realpolitik and the concept of limited nuclear war
Henry Kissinger is a renowned practitioner and theorist of Realpolitik, which prioritizes national interests and power dynamics over ideological concerns. In the context of strategic thought, he explored the concept of limited nuclear war as an alternative to total annihilation. His work emphasized the importance of maintaining a balance of power through pragmatic diplomacy and calculated military deterrence.

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27. (D) It relied heavily on maintaining large, costly conventional ground forces.
The doctrine of massive retaliation was a Cold War strategy that threatened a full-scale nuclear response to any form of aggression. A key feature of this policy was the desire to reduce military spending by relying on nuclear weapons as a deterrent. Consequently, it did not emphasize the maintenance of large and costly conventional ground forces, preferring instead nuclear superiority.

28. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Various nuclear doctrines were developed by United States administrations to address evolving security challenges. Dwight Eisenhower implemented massive retaliation to deter the Soviet Union. John F. Kennedy introduced flexible response to provide more military options. Robert McNamara was closely associated with the conceptualization of mutually assured destruction, while Ronald Reagan proposed the space-based strategic defense initiative during the 1980s.

29. (C) Fear of unacceptable retaliation
Deterrence is a strategic concept designed to prevent an adversary from taking a hostile action by influencing their decision-making process. It relies on the psychological mechanism of fear, specifically the fear of experiencing unacceptable retaliatory costs. By maintaining a credible threat of punishment, a state aims to convince its opponent that the risks of aggression far outweigh any benefits.

30. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Flexible response was a strategy that advocated for a diverse range of military, political, and diplomatic capabilities to address various levels of aggression. While it emphasized strengthening conventional forces to provide alternatives to nuclear war, it was never intended to replace the nuclear arsenal entirely. Instead, it sought to create a credible deterrent across the entire spectrum of potential conflict scenarios.

31. (A) Mutually Assured Destruction
Mutually assured destruction is a strategic doctrine based on the premise that a full-scale nuclear exchange would result in the total annihilation of both the attacker and the defender. This condition creates a "balance of terror" where neither side has an incentive to initiate a conflict. For this to remain effective, both nations must maintain survivable retaliatory capabilities.

32. (B) Surviving a first strike and retaliating with force
Second strike capability is a critical component of nuclear deterrence that ensures a nation can absorb a first strike and still respond with devastating force. This ability to retaliate effectively makes a surprise attack irrational for an adversary, as it guarantees their own destruction. Maintaining survivable delivery systems, such as submarine-launched missiles, is essential for a credible second strike.

33. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Proponents of mutually assured destruction criticized the strategic defense initiative because it threatened the delicate balance of nuclear terror. By potentially creating an effective shield against incoming missiles, SDI could neutralize an opponent's retaliatory strike capability. This would undermine the logic of MAD, as the protected nation might feel emboldened to strike first without fearing the consequences of mutual annihilation.

34. (A) NMD - Offensive nuclear posture for territorial expansion
National missile defense is fundamentally a defensive system designed to intercept and destroy incoming ballistic missiles before they reach their targets. It is intended to protect a nation's territory rather than serve as an offensive tool for expansion. Other concepts like deterrence, the strategic defense initiative, and mutually assured destruction are correctly associated with their respective strategic functions and descriptions.

35. (C) Shielding a nation from intercontinental ballistic missiles
The primary objective of a national missile defense system is to provide a protective shield for a country against incoming intercontinental ballistic missiles. By using advanced sensors and interceptors, the system aims to detect and neutralize threats in various phases of flight. This defensive capability is intended to enhance

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national security and reduce vulnerability to limited or accidental nuclear strikes.

36. (D) Building an impenetrable missile defense shield
Deterrence by denial focuses on persuading an adversary that an attack will fail to achieve its objectives due to the defender's robust capabilities. Building an impenetrable missile defense shield is a classic example of this strategy, as it makes the prospect of a successful strike unlikely. This contrasts with deterrence by punishment, which focuses on threatening severe retaliatory costs.

37. (C) Secrecy of possessing nuclear technology
For a nuclear deterrent to be effective, its existence and the will to use it must be communicated to potential adversaries. Therefore, keeping the possession of nuclear technology a complete secret would undermine the primary goal of deterrence, which requires the opponent to be aware of the threat. Key elements include actual capability, credible communication, and demonstrated political will.

38. (A) 1, 2, and 3 only
India's nuclear doctrine is characterized by a commitment to no first use and the maintenance of a credible minimum deterrence. It also states that any nuclear attack against India or its forces will result in a massive and unacceptable retaliatory strike. However, the doctrine does not restrict the use of nuclear weapons only against non-nuclear states; it focuses on deterrence.

39. (D) Launching nuclear weapons from land, air, and sea
A nuclear triad is a strategic posture that involves the ability to launch nuclear weapons from three distinct platforms: land-based missiles, strategic bombers, and submarine-launched missiles. This diversification increases the survivability of a nation's nuclear arsenal, ensuring a credible second-strike capability even if one or two legs of the triad are compromised during an initial enemy attack.

40. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
India's maritime doctrine emphasizes the strategic importance of the Indian Ocean Region and the necessity of securing vital sea lines of communication. These routes are essential for international trade and national energy security. However, the doctrine does not prohibit joint naval exercises; in fact, India actively participates in bilateral and multilateral drills to enhance interoperability and regional stability.

41. (C) Modernizing conventional forces and infrastructure
Following the conflict with China in 1962, India's security policy underwent a significant transformation. The focus shifted toward the systematic modernization of its conventional military forces and the development of better infrastructure along its borders. This period highlighted the limitations of earlier idealistic approaches and emphasized the need for robust defense capabilities to protect territorial integrity and national interests.

42. (A) Absorbing a strike and retaliating massively
India's no first use policy is a strategic commitment that nuclear weapons will only be used in retaliation for a nuclear, biological, or chemical attack on its territory or forces. In a crisis, this implies that India would absorb an initial nuclear strike before responding with a massive and devastating retaliatory blow. This posture aims to maintain strategic stability.

43. (A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
India's security policy has been shaped by major historical events, including the 1971 war and the 1998 nuclear tests. The 1999 Kargil War led to institutional reforms like the Kargil Review Committee, while strategic autonomy remains a guiding principle. However, the claim that India has never participated in UN peacekeeping is false, as India is a major troop contributor.

44. (B) China's naval footprint and regional assertiveness
The rising importance of the Indo-Pacific construct in India's maritime strategy is largely a response to China's expanding naval presence and assertive behavior in the region. To protect its strategic interests and maintain a balance of power, India has increased its focus on maritime security, partnership building, and securing vital sea routes that connect the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

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45. (C) Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs) are routinely used as primary tools in conventional warfare.
Conventional warfare is characterized by the use of standard military weapons and tactics between organized, identifiable armed forces. It generally follows established international laws and seeks to achieve political goals by defeating the opponent's military capacity. However, the routine use of weapons of mass destruction as primary tools is not a feature of conventional warfare; such weapons are considered unconventional.

46. (D) Deployment of massive armored divisions in open terrain
Low intensity conflicts are typically characterized by asymmetric tactics, subversion, and a focus on psychological and political objectives rather than purely military ones. They involve operations that fall below the threshold of full-scale conventional war. Consequently, the deployment of massive armored divisions in open terrain is more characteristic of high-intensity conventional warfare than the subversive nature of LIC.

47. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Information warfare is a broad concept aimed at achieving superiority by manipulating or protecting information and its supporting systems. This includes psychological operations and cyber activities. However, characterizing communication warfare as being limited only to the physical destruction of radio towers is too narrow. Modern information warfare involves a sophisticated array of digital, psychological, and electronic methods beyond simple sabotage.

48. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Different types of warfare utilize specific agents or technologies to achieve their objectives. Biological warfare involves pathogens like anthrax or toxins. Chemical warfare employs toxic substances such as sarin or mustard gas. Nuclear warfare is defined by the use of fission and fusion devices for immense destruction. Cyber warfare focuses on using malware and digital tools to disrupt an adversary's systems.

49. (B) Systematic change in war character via technology
The revolution in military affairs refers to a fundamental change in the nature of warfare resulting from the innovative application of new technologies combined with dramatic changes in military doctrine and organizational concepts. This process fundamentally alters the character and conduct of military operations, often providing a significant advantage to states that successfully integrate these advancements into their forces.

50. (A) Guerrilla Warfare tactics
Guerrilla warfare is a form of asymmetric conflict where small, mobile groups of combatants use hit-and-run tactics, ambushes, and sabotage to fight a larger, more traditional military. These groups often avoid direct confrontation and blend into the civilian population for protection and support. This strategy aims to wear down the opponent's resources and will over a prolonged period.

51. (C) Integrated command, intelligence, and surveillance
A key element of the revolution in military affairs is the integration of command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance systems. This integration allows for unprecedented situational awareness and the coordination of precision strikes. Other elements like network-centric warfare focus on connecting units, while stealth technology aims to reduce visibility rather than increase it, contrary to incorrect pairings.

52. (D) It is considered a highly controllable and predictable form of warfare.
Biological warfare involves the intentional use of living organisms or toxins to cause disease and death. While international treaties like the Biological Weapons Convention prohibit these weapons, they are notoriously difficult to control once released. Factors such as weather conditions and the mutation of pathogens make biological agents highly unpredictable and potentially hazardous to the user as well as the target.

53. (A) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
Non-traditional security encompasses various issues that affect human survival and well-being.

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Food security focuses on access to safe and nutritious diets. Health security addresses the challenges posed by pandemics and infectious diseases. Energy security ensures a reliable supply of vital resources like fossil fuels. Environmental security deals with global threats such as climate change and the loss of biodiversity.

54. (B) The Individual
The concept of human security, popularized by the United Nations Development Programme, represents a fundamental shift in strategic thinking. It moves away from a state-centric focus on national borders and military defense, instead placing the individual at the center of the security framework. This approach recognizes that true safety requires addressing threats to personal well-being, dignity, and survival.

55. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Non-traditional security threats, such as pandemics and environmental degradation, are often transnational in nature and require cooperative, multilateral responses between states. While military force is a traditional tool for state defense, it is not always the most effective or appropriate means to resolve these complex challenges. Instead, solutions often involve diplomacy, economic aid, and scientific cooperation.

56. (A) Scarcity-led conflict via climate droughts
Environmental security explores how ecological changes can lead to social and political instability. A well-documented cause-and-effect relationship involves climate-induced droughts leading to resource scarcity, which can subsequently trigger violent conflicts over water or fertile land. These environmental stresses act as threat multipliers, exacerbating existing tensions within and between nations and necessitating new approaches to regional stability.

57. (C) Monopolization
Food security is built upon several key pillars defined by international organizations, including the availability of food, economic and physical access to it, and its proper utilization by the body. Stability of these factors over time is also essential. Monopolization of food resources is a barrier to achieving these goals rather than a foundational pillar of a secure food system.

58. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Cyber security has become a vital component of modern national security because contemporary society relies heavily on digital networks. Critical infrastructure, including power grids, water systems, and financial markets, is increasingly interconnected and vulnerable to sophisticated cyber-attacks. Protecting these systems from disruption is essential for maintaining social order, economic stability, and the overall safety of the nation.

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59. (D) Differential conflict impact and participation
Gender security in international relations emphasizes that men and women experience conflict and insecurity differently. It highlights how gender norms influence participation in warfare and the specific vulnerabilities faced by different groups, such as the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war. This perspective advocates for inclusive policies that address these unique impacts during and after conflicts.

60. (B) Health Security - Combating HIV/AIDS and COVID-19
While health issues like pandemics are significant, some traditional security frameworks argue that they do not constitute a “security” threat in the same way as military aggression. From this narrow perspective, categorizing the fight against diseases like HIV/AIDS and COVID-19 purely as a security matter might be viewed as an over-extension of the term’s meaning within strategic discourse.

61. (C) Cyber terrorism
Cyber terrorism involves the use of digital attacks by non-state actors or groups to cause widespread disruption, fear, or economic damage for political or ideological motives. Targeting a nation’s banking software to destabilize its economy is a prime example of this threat. It exploits the vulnerabilities of interconnected financial systems to achieve its goals without the use of physical force.

Weaker groups use unconventional tactics, such as guerrilla warfare and terrorism, to exploit the vulnerabilities of technologically superior conventional militaries. This approach allows them to offset their lack of traditional military strength and achieve their political goals through indirect and psychological means.

134. (B) It involves fostering social and economic development.
While peacebuilding often includes social and economic development projects, some narrow definitions argue that it should be strictly focused on preventing the immediate recurrence of violence. From this perspective, the broad inclusion of long-term development might be seen as exceeding the primary security goal of stabilizing a post-conflict environment, although most modern frameworks consider them to be fundamentally linked.

135. (D) Hard Power / Economic Statecraft
The use of economic sanctions and trade embargoes to influence the behavior of another state is a form of hard power and economic statecraft. Unlike soft power, which relies on attraction and persuasion, hard power uses coercion and material pressure to achieve political objectives. These tools aim to inflict economic pain on an adversary until they change their policies or actions.

136. (A) Niccolò Machiavelli
Niccolò Machiavelli is the strategic thinker most associated with the realist view that the survival and power of the state must be prioritized above all else. In his work "The Prince," he argued that a ruler must be prepared to use deceit, force, and other unconventional means if they are necessary for maintaining order and ensuring the state's security.

137. (C) Direct artillery bombardment of enemy trenches
Information warfare focuses on manipulating or protecting the flow of information and its supporting digital and psychological systems. Common methods include cyber espionage, electronic jamming, and psychological operations. In contrast, direct artillery bombardment is a form of kinetic, conventional physical warfare aimed at destroying physical targets and personnel, rather than manipulating information or digital networks during a strategic operation.

138. (A) 1, 2, and 4 only
Deterrence aims to prevent action through threats, while compellence seeks to force a change in behavior. Flexible response necessitates robust conventional forces to provide diverse options. However, massive retaliation proved ineffective against low-level insurgencies and limited conflicts, as a nuclear response was seen as disproportionate and not credible in such situations. This limitation led to the adoption of tailored strategies.

139. (D) Track I involves officials; Track II is informal
The primary difference between Track I and Track II diplomacy lies in the participants and their level of formality. Track I diplomacy involves official negotiations between governmental representatives and heads of state. Track II diplomacy consists of informal and unofficial interactions between non-state actors, such as academics and retired officials, aimed at building trust and exploring solutions outside of policy.

140. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
Environmental security recognizes that the depletion of natural resources and ecological degradation can act as significant drivers of violent conflict. This perspective acknowledges that historical security studies often ignored these environmental factors in favor of purely military and state-centric analysis. Integrating ecology into security frameworks is essential for understanding contemporary threats to both national stability and individual human survival.

141. (C) Low Intensity Conflict / Proxy Warfare
Proxy warfare is a feature of many modern conflicts where a major power uses a third party, such as an insurgent group or another state, to fight its rivals. This allows the sponsor to influence the outcome of a conflict and damage its opponent without engaging in a direct, high-risk military confrontation. It is often classified as a low-intensity conflict.

142. (D) CWC - Conventional Artillery
The Chemical Weapons Convention is specifically designed to eliminate chemical

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71. (D) Preventing conflict escalation and spread
Preventive diplomacy involves the use of diplomatic measures to prevent disputes from arising between parties, to prevent existing disputes from escalating into open conflicts, and to limit the spread of conflicts when they occur. Its fundamental goal is to preserve peace through early intervention, negotiation, and mediation before violence becomes widespread or entrenched, saving lives and resources.

72. (A) A.T. Mahan
Alfred Thayer Mahan was a highly influential American naval officer and historian who wrote the seminal work "The Influence of Sea Power upon History." In this book, he argued that the command of the sea was the decisive factor in the rise and fall of great empires. His theories significantly shaped the naval strategies of major powers during the twentieth century.

73. (A) 2, 3, 4, 1
United States nuclear strategy evolved through several distinct phases during the Cold War. Massive retaliation was the primary doctrine in the early 1950s under Eisenhower. The Kennedy administration transitioned to flexible response in the 1960s. This was followed by the recognition of mutually assured destruction as a stable reality, and finally, the proposal of the strategic defense initiative in 1983.

74. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Environmental security issues are rarely confined within national borders and often have significant transboundary implications. Problems such as the sharing of river water and the spread of transboundary air pollution can lead to diplomatic tensions and international conflict. Recognizing these challenges as more than just localized problems is essential for regional stability and cooperative management of shared resources.

75. (D) Food Security
This scenario illustrates how a non-traditional threat like food insecurity can trigger traditional conflicts. When extreme famine leads to mass migration, it can strain the resources of neighboring countries, leading to competition and violence. Ensuring a stable and sufficient food supply is therefore not only a humanitarian concern but also a vital component of maintaining regional and national stability.

76. (B) Ahimsa (Absolute Non-violence)
Kautilya's Sadgunya, or six-fold policy of statecraft, includes various strategies for managing interstate relations: sandhi (making a treaty), vigraha (war), asana (neutrality), yana (marching), samshraya (seeking protection), and dvaidhibhava (double policy). While Kautilya was a pragmatic strategist, absolute non-violence or ahimsa is not part of this framework, as his approach focused on the survival and expansion of the state.

77. (C) Threatening severe retaliatory costs for attacks
Deterrence by punishment is a strategy that aims to prevent an adversary from taking a specific action by threatening to inflict severe and unacceptable retaliatory costs. Unlike deterrence by denial, which focuses on making an attack fail, this approach relies on the credibility of the threat to cause significant pain to the opponent, thereby making the costs outweigh any benefits.

78. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Strategic concepts are often associated with specific thinkers or nations. Carl von Clausewitz identified the center of gravity as a source of military strength. Halford Mackinder developed the heartland theory, while Nicholas Spykman focused on the importance of the rimland. Finally, the "no first use" nuclear policy is a key pillar of India's strategic posture and its commitment to deterrence.

79. (A) Irrationality via mutual annihilation threat
The advent of nuclear weapons fundamentally changed the strategic logic of total war. Because a full-scale exchange between nuclear-armed states would result in mutual annihilation, the concept of total war became irrational as a tool of policy. This reality created a condition where major powers sought to avoid direct military confrontation, leading to the development of doctrines like deterrence.

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62. (D) Conflict Resolution
Conflict resolution is a process that seeks to achieve long-term harmony by addressing the underlying root causes of a dispute, such as structural inequalities or historical grievances. Unlike conflict management, which focuses on containing the symptoms of violence, resolution aims to transform the relationship between parties to ensure that the conflict does not recur in the future through sustainable solutions.

63. (B) 2 and 3 only
Peacebuilding is a comprehensive process that aims to reduce the risk of a country lapsing or relapsing into conflict by strengthening national capacities for management and development. It is not limited to active combat phases but often occurs in post-conflict environments. It involves a wide range of activities beyond military intervention, focusing on social, economic, and political stability.

64. (B) Disarmament eliminates weapons; control regulates
Arms control and disarmament are distinct but related approaches to managing military power. Disarmament focuses on the actual reduction or total elimination of specific types of weapons or entire categories of armaments. In contrast, arms control seeks to regulate and manage the acquisition, deployment, and use of weapons to enhance strategic stability and prevent unintentional escalation into conflict.

65. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The Non-Proliferation Treaty is a landmark international agreement designed to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and promote cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, serving as a primary example of arms control. Conversely, disarmament involves the reduction or elimination of weapons stockpiles rather than their increase. Increasing weapons to maintain a balance is a feature of rearmament.

66. (A) Negative peace lacks direct violence; positive lacks structural
Johan Galtung, a pioneer in peace studies, distinguished between two types of peace. Negative peace is defined simply as the absence of direct, physical violence such as war. Positive peace is a more comprehensive concept that involves the absence of structural violence and the presence of social justice, equity, and harmony, addressing the underlying causes of human suffering.

67. (C) Preemptive military strike
Instruments of conflict resolution are designed to settle disputes through peaceful and cooperative means. These include negotiation between parties, mediation by a third party, and arbitration where a binding decision is reached. A preemptive military strike, however, is an act of aggression or defense involving the use of force, which typically escalates rather than resolves a conflict through diplomatic channels.

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68. (A) 1, 2, and 4 only
Major arms control agreements include the SALT I treaty to limit offensive weapons, the Chemical Weapons Convention to ban toxic agents, and the ABM Treaty between the USA and the USSR. However, the CTBT has not been ratified by all nuclear-armed states, and India is notably not a signatory to the NPT, viewing it as discriminatory in its current form.

69. (C) Unofficial, informal non-state interactions
Track II diplomacy refers to unofficial and informal interactions between non-state actors, such as academics, retired officials, and non-governmental organizations. These interactions aim to build trust, explore new ideas, and create a conducive environment for formal negotiations. By operating outside official governmental channels, Track II diplomacy can address sensitive issues and bridge gaps that might be difficult for diplomats.

70. (B) It is solely a domestic law enforcement issue with no international dimensions.
International terrorism is a complex global challenge that transcends national borders, often involving transnational non-state actors and networks. It relies on the psychological impact of violence to influence a broad audience and achieve political goals. Therefore, characterizing it solely as a domestic law enforcement issue with no international dimensions is incorrect, as it requires coordinated global efforts and intelligence sharing.

political necessity from personal morality. However, Carl von Clausewitz did not view war as a blind struggle; he famously argued that war is always a political act and a continuation of policy by other means.

89. (C) Absolute reliance on airborne logistics
Alfred Thayer Mahan identified several principal conditions that affect the sea power of a nation, including its geographical position, the extent of its territory, and the character of its government and people. Because Mahan wrote in the late nineteenth century, he did not consider absolute reliance on airborne logistics, which was a technology that had not yet been developed.

90. (C) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
National missile defense is categorized as a defensive strategy aimed at protecting a nation from incoming missiles. It is not inherently an offensive posture for territorial expansion. In contrast, the strategic defense initiative was a proposed system during the Cold War that intended to use space-based technology to create a defensive shield against ballistic attacks, fitting the description of a defensive project.

91. (D) Negotiation between state representatives
Diplomacy is the primary tool of international statecraft, involving the conduct of negotiations between official representatives of states. In the context of security, it serves as a peaceful means to manage disputes, build alliances, and reach agreements without resorting to armed conflict. It relies on communication, persuasion, and compromise to protect national interests and maintain global or regional stability.

92. (B) Guaranteeing protection from cyber hacking
While the other options correctly pair a specific security domain with its primary focus area, this entry fails to provide a categorical label or clear association in the same format. Furthermore, while protecting against hacking is part of cyber security, the phrasing lacks the standard structure used to define non-traditional security threats as established in the other academic examples.

93. (A) 1, 3, and 4 only
India's maritime doctrine focuses on protecting its exclusive economic zone, conducting anti-piracy operations, and providing disaster relief. It also envisions the development of blue-water naval capabilities to project influence. However, it does not disregard sea lines of communication; in fact, securing them is a priority. Additionally, its scope is maritime and oceanic rather than being limited to navigation.

94. (D) Referent object of security
The shift from state-centric to human-centric security represents a fundamental change in the referent object of security. In traditional security, the state is the entity to be protected through military means. In human security, the focus is on the individual person and their protection from various threats. This conceptual change alters how security challenges are identified, analyzed, and addressed globally.

95. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Disarmament is often perceived as an idealistic or utopian goal aimed at the total elimination of weapons, while arms control is a more pragmatic approach to managing competition and preventing war. The ultimate goal of general and complete disarmament has not been achieved in the twenty-first century, as nations continue to maintain military forces and sophisticated weapons of all types.

96. (B) Flexible Response
The Kennedy administration replaced the doctrine of massive retaliation with the strategy of flexible response. This new approach was designed to provide the United States with a wider range of military, diplomatic, and political options to deter aggression at various levels. It aimed to reduce the immediate risk of nuclear war by emphasizing the importance of strong and capable conventional forces.

97. (B) Mutual trust and informal communication
Track-two diplomacy is characterized by unofficial and informal interactions between non-state actors from conflicting parties. Its primary effect is the creation of mutual trust and the establishment of informal communication channels where sensitive issues can be discussed without the constraints of official policy. These efforts often lay the groundwork for more formal

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negotiations and help to reduce overall tensions between states.

98. (A) Targeting of non-combatants
The principles of a just war, or jus ad bellum, include having a just cause, acting under legitimate authority, and ensuring that the use of force is proportional. A fundamental rule in the conduct of war is the protection of civilians; therefore, the intentional targeting of non-combatants is an exception to these principles and is considered a war crime.

99. (C) Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA)
The development and deployment of stealth fighter aircraft is a clear application of the revolution in military affairs. This technology utilizes advanced engineering to reduce an aircraft's radar visibility, allowing it to penetrate enemy defenses and strike targets with precision. This shift toward high-technology systems fundamentally changes the conduct of air warfare and provides a significant strategic advantage to modern militaries.

100. (D) Insurgency and subversion are key LIC components
Low intensity conflict is a type of warfare that involves a struggle for political and social influence rather than decisive large-scale battles. It is characterized by the use of unconventional methods such as insurgency, subversion, and psychological operations. These conflicts often take place within a state and involve non-state actors who use asymmetric tactics to challenge established authority or gain power.

101. (C) Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Warfare
Warfare involving the use of nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons is classified as weapons of mass destruction warfare. These armaments are grouped together because of their potential to inflict enormous and indiscriminate casualties and damage over large areas. Due to their devastating nature, the development and use of WMDs are heavily regulated and restricted by various international treaties and conventions.

102. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Energy security is a multi-faceted concept that goes beyond simply maintaining domestic production of renewable energy. It also includes the crucial task of ensuring stable, affordable, and reliable access to global energy markets and supply routes. For many nations, securing the transportation of energy resources from foreign suppliers is as vital as developing internal sources to maintain national stability.

103. (A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
Many foundational works in strategic and political thought are associated with specific scholars. Henry Kissinger wrote about nuclear weapons and foreign policy. William Mitchell authored "Winged Defense" to promote air power. Kautilya is the author of the ancient Indian treatise, the Arthashastra, which covers statecraft and strategy. Niccolò Machiavelli wrote "The Prince," a classic study of power and realism.

104. (A) A global viral pandemic
Traditional military security threats involve direct actions by hostile states, such as territorial invasions, naval blockades, or artillery bombardments. These are state-centric and military-focused challenges. In contrast, a global viral pandemic is a non-traditional security threat. While it poses a major risk to human life and national stability, it originates from biological rather than military sources and requires different responses.

105. (C) Retaliate only for NBC attacks
India's nuclear doctrine is based on the principle of no first use, meaning that nuclear weapons are maintained solely for deterrence and retaliation. In a crisis, this implies that India will only consider the use of nuclear weapons in response to a nuclear, biological, or chemical attack against its territory or its armed forces anywhere in the world.

106. (A) It is a recognized and legal method of conventional statecraft under international law.
Terrorism is defined as the use of random or symbolic violence to induce fear and influence a broad audience for political or ideological purposes. It is widely condemned and is not a

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recognized or legal method of statecraft under international law. Instead, it is considered a violation of human rights and the laws of armed conflict, whether conducted by actors.

107. (D) Defensive acts perceived as offensive threats
The security dilemma is a core concept in realist international relations theory. It suggests that in an anarchic system, the actions one state takes to increase its security, even if purely defensive, can be perceived as offensive threats by other states. This leads to a cycle of escalating tensions and arms races as each party tries to match the other.

108. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Climate change is increasingly recognized as a threat multiplier because it can exacerbate existing social, economic, and political tensions. By causing resource scarcities, such as water and food shortages, it can lead to instability and conflict within and between nations. This makes environmental issues a critical concern for national and international security, as they can trigger or intensify violent disputes.

109. (C) Unpredictable incidents distinguishing real war from theory
In Carl von Clausewitz's theory of war, friction is the force that distinguishes real war from war on paper. It is caused by countless unpredictable incidents, such as bad weather, poor communication, or unexpected human errors, that make even the simplest tasks difficult to execute. Friction introduces uncertainty and chance into every military operation, complicating the best-laid strategic plans.

110. (D) Conflict containment without root resolution
Conflict management is an approach that focuses on containing and limiting the level of violence in a dispute without necessarily addressing its underlying root causes. This contrasts with conflict resolution, which seeks sustainable solutions to the foundational issues of a conflict. Understanding this distinction is essential for analyzing different international interventions and the long-term prospects for peace in various regions.

111. (A) Joining formal, binding military alliances like NATO
India's current security posture is defined by its commitment to strategic autonomy and its refusal to join formal, binding military alliances like NATO. Instead, India focuses on building its own indigenous defense capabilities, engaging in diverse strategic partnerships, and maintaining a credible minimum deterrence. This approach allows India to pursue its national interests independently in a complex multipolar global environment.

112. (B) Non-Traditional Security
Protecting a nation's banking infrastructure from digital attacks is a clear example of addressing a non-traditional security threat. While traditional security focuses on physical borders and military invasions, non-traditional security encompasses challenges like cyber-attacks, climate change, and pandemics. Securing digital networks is essential for maintaining economic stability and public trust in the modern interconnected world, requiring specialized defensive strategies.

113. (A) 1, 2, and 3 only
Strategic air power theory was developed by several key thinkers. Giulio Douhet argued for targeting civilian centers to break an enemy's will. William Mitchell demonstrated that aircraft could sink naval vessels, proving their military value. Alexander de Seversky advocated for global reach and long-range air power. However, Alfred Thayer Mahan was a proponent of naval power rather than air power.

114. (A) One party's gain is exactly matched by the other party's loss
In conflict resolution and game theory, a zero-sum game describes a situation where the total benefits are fixed, meaning that any gain achieved by one party is exactly matched by an equivalent loss for the other. This creates a highly competitive environment where cooperation is difficult to achieve, as every concession is seen as a direct defeat in the negotiation.

115. (C) Appeasement - Aggressively challenging a rival's territorial claims
Appeasement is a diplomatic strategy of making concessions to an aggressive power in order to avoid conflict or maintain peace. It is the opposite

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of aggressively challenging a rival's territorial claims. Other pairs, such as preemptive and preventive strikes and collective defense, are correctly defined according to their standard usage in the field of international relations and security studies.

116. (D) Implementing Resolution 1325 on Women and Peace
The implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 is a practical application of gender security. This resolution recognizes the disproportionate impact of conflict on women and children and calls for the increased participation of women in peace processes, conflict resolution, and post-conflict reconstruction. It aims to integrate a gender perspective into all aspects of international peace and security.

117. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Modern arms control agreements do not rely on absolute trust between nations. Instead, they incorporate rigorous verification mechanisms, such as on-site inspections, satellite surveillance, and data exchanges, to ensure compliance. These tools are essential for building confidence and ensuring that all parties are adhering to the terms of the treaty, thereby reducing the risk of cheating or secret rearmament.

118. (A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
Non-traditional security expands the focus from the state to include the individual and addresses threats like poverty, disease, and environmental degradation. Human security is a central part of this paradigm. However, non-traditional security does not completely reject the existence of traditional military threats; rather, it argues that a broader range of challenges must also be recognized as significant.

119. (D) The vast Eurasian landmass, primarily Russia
Halford Mackinder's Heartland Theory identified the vast interior region of the Eurasian landmass, primarily encompassing modern-day Russia and parts of Central Asia, as the pivot area of global politics. He famously stated that whoever controls this "Heartland" could dominate the World Island and eventually the entire world, due to its strategic position and immunity from naval power.

120. (A) It allows the use of chemical weapons for riot control in international warfare.
The Chemical Weapons Convention is a comprehensive arms control treaty that prohibits the development, production, and stockpiling of chemical weapons. While it allows for the use of certain chemicals for domestic riot control, it strictly forbids the use of riot control agents as a method of warfare in international conflict. It also establishes a robust verification regime for monitoring.

121. (C) An armed attack against one member is considered an attack against all members
The principle of collective defense, which is central to alliances like NATO, holds that an armed attack against one member state is considered an attack against all members. This commitment creates a powerful deterrent against aggression, as any potential attacker must face the combined military strength of the entire alliance. It serves to enhance regional stability through mutual security guarantees.

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122. (A) Samuel P. Huntington
Samuel P. Huntington was a political scientist who developed the "Clash of Civilizations" thesis. He argued that in the post-Cold War world, the primary sources of international conflict would shift from ideological or economic disputes to cultural and religious differences between civilizations. This model became a widely discussed and debated framework for understanding contemporary global security dynamics.

123. (A) 3, 1, 2, 4
Key milestones in India's security policy followed a specific historical timeline. The Sino-Indian War occurred in 1962, exposing military vulnerabilities. This was followed by the first nuclear test, "Smiling Buddha," in 1974. The Kargil War in 1999 led to significant institutional reviews. Most recently, the position of Chief of Defence Staff was established in late 2019 to improve military integration.

124. (B) Universal morality completely detached from national interest
National power is composed of various elements such as military strength, economic capability, and national morale. These factors enable a

state to pursue its interests on the world stage. However, a universal morality that is completely detached from national interest is generally not considered an element of state power, as power is primarily used to achieve specific state-centric goals.

125. (C) Biological warfare / Bioterrorism
The intentional release of biological agents like anthrax to harm or kill humans, animals, or crops is classified as biological warfare or bioterrorism. These agents are living organisms or toxins that can cause widespread disease and social disruption. Because of their potential for mass casualties, the use of biological weapons is strictly prohibited by international law and the Biological Weapons Convention.

126. (D) It requires a vulnerable second-strike capability.
Mutually assured destruction is based on the premise that both sides must have a credible and survivable second-strike capability to ensure that any attacker will also be destroyed. Therefore, a second-strike capability must be protected rather than vulnerable. Other features of MAD include a "balance of terror" and the belief that a nuclear war cannot be won by either side.

127. (A) Coercive Diplomacy
Coercive diplomacy is the use of threats or limited force, combined with diplomatic and economic pressure, to persuade an adversary to stop or undo an action. The goal is to achieve political objectives without escalating to a full-scale war. It relies on a combination of carrots and sticks to influence the opponent's calculations of costs and benefits during a crisis.

128. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Various theories in international relations are linked to specific scholars. Alfred Thayer Mahan is the key figure in sea power theory. Nicholas Spykman developed the rimland theory as a response to Mackinder. Barry Buzan and Ole Wæver are associated with the concept of securitization. Michael Doyle and Immanuel Kant are central to the development of democratic peace theory.

129. (B) States seeking weapons for security or prestige
Nuclear proliferation occurs when additional states or non-state actors acquire nuclear weapons technology. The primary causes of this process include states seeking weapons to enhance their national security against rivals or to gain international prestige and influence. This spread is often seen as a challenge to global stability and is addressed through treaties like the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

130. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The revolution in military affairs is characterized by the integration of advanced information technology into military operations, which enhances precision and coordination. However, it has not completely eliminated the "fog of war" or friction in conflict. Uncertainty and unpredictable human factors remain inherent in every battle, meaning that even the most technologically advanced militaries must still contend with chaos.

131. (C) Health Security
Health security is a non-traditional security concept that focuses on protecting populations from the threat of infectious diseases and pandemics, such as COVID-19 or Ebola. These issues are transnational and can lead to significant social, economic, and political instability. Addressing health threats requires international cooperation, robust public health systems, and coordinated responses beyond traditional military defense to ensure well-being.

132. (D) Upayas - Sama, Dana, Bheda, Danda
Kautilya's strategic framework includes the four Upayas, or methods of influence: sama (conciliation), dana (gifts or bribery), bheda (sowing dissension), and danda (use of force). These tools were used by rulers to manage internal and external relations. Other terms like Saptanga refer to the seven elements of state, and Mandala to regional geopolitics, making the pairing with Upayas correct.

133. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Asymmetric warfare is a dominant feature of twenty-first-century conflict because of the power gap between states and non-state actors.

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80. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The revolution in military affairs emphasizes the importance of network-centric warfare and the use of precision-guided munitions to achieve military objectives. However, while technological superiority provides significant advantages in conventional battles, it does not guarantee political success in complex environments like insurgencies or low-intensity conflicts. These situations often require social, economic, and political solutions that technology alone cannot provide.

81. (B) Attribution of attacks in cyber warfare is often simple and immediate.
Cyber warfare involves digital attacks against a state's infrastructure and can be conducted by both state and non-state actors. A major challenge in this domain is that the attribution of attacks is often extremely difficult and time-consuming. Perpetrators can mask their identities and locations, making it hard to hold them accountable or respond effectively, contrary to being simple or immediate.

82. (A) Energy Security
Energy security is a non-traditional concept that focuses on ensuring stable, reliable, and affordable access to the energy resources necessary for a nation's functioning. It specifically addresses the vulnerabilities created by a heavy dependence on imported fossil fuels, which can be subject to price volatility and supply disruptions. Strategies to enhance energy security include diversifying sources and investing in renewables.

83. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Asymmetric warfare has become a prominent feature of contemporary conflict because weaker non-state actors often cannot match the conventional military power of modern states. To exploit the vulnerabilities of superior forces, these actors utilize unconventional tactics such as insurgency, guerrilla warfare, and terrorism. This approach allows them to achieve political objectives by avoiding direct confrontation and targeting the opponent's will.

84. (D) Peacekeeping - Deployment of forces to monitor a ceasefire
Peacekeeping involves the deployment of international personnel, often under a United Nations mandate, to monitor a ceasefire and maintain order between conflicting parties. Other terms are often misunderstood; for example, peacemaking refers to diplomatic efforts to reach an agreement, while peacebuilding focuses on long-term reconstruction. Preventive diplomacy aims to stop conflicts before they start rather than reconstructing states post-conflict.

85. (C) Game Theory and Negotiation
The concept of a "Best Alternative to a Negotiated Agreement" is a fundamental principle in negotiation and conflict resolution. It helps parties understand their position of strength by identifying the best outcome they can achieve if the negotiation fails. This analytical approach is derived from game theory and is used to make rational decisions during complex diplomatic or economic discussions.

86. (C) It advocates for the aggressive first use of nuclear weapons to disarm the enemy.
Mutually assured destruction is a defensive doctrine based on the idea that nuclear war is unwinnable and must be avoided through a balance of terror. It relies on the assumption of rational decision-making and the possession of a credible second-strike capability. It does not advocate for the aggressive first use of nuclear weapons, as that would trigger a suicidal response.

87. (D) Information Warfare
Information warfare involves the use of various methods to manipulate, disrupt, or control the flow of information to achieve strategic goals. When an adversary uses propaganda and social media to destabilize a nation's internal politics, they are engaging in a form of information warfare. This approach targets the perceptions and psychological state of the population rather than using traditional physical weapons.

88. (A) 1, 2, and 4 only
The history of strategy includes Kautilya's foundational work on statecraft and Sun Tzu's emphasis on the importance of deception. Niccolò Machiavelli is also noted for separating

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weapons and prohibits their development and use. It is not an agreement for the regulation of conventional artillery, which is typically addressed under different frameworks like the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe. Other treaties like the NPT, BWC, and CTBT are correctly paired with their respective categories.

143. (A) 1, 2, and 4 only
Human security includes protection from both physical threats and deprivation, often summarized as "freedom from fear" and "freedom from want." This concept was popularized by the 1994 UNDP report and addresses poverty and disease. However, it does not assume that state security automatically ensures human security, as states can sometimes be the source of insecurity for their citizens.

144. (B) Military and societal digital reliance
Information warfare has gained prominence primarily because modern military systems and society as a whole are increasingly reliant on digital networks and information technology. This dependency creates new vulnerabilities that adversaries can exploit through cyber-attacks and psychological operations. As a result, securing the information domain has become a critical priority for national defense and the protection of essential services.

145. (B) Strategic stability via regulated competition
The primary goal of arms control is to enhance strategic stability by regulating the competition between states and reducing the likelihood of accidental or unintentional conflict. Rather than seeking the total elimination of weapons, it focuses on creating rules for the acquisition and deployment of armaments. This process helps to build predictability and transparency between rivals, mitigating the risks of escalation.

146. (A) Know enemy and self for safety in battle
A central principle in Sun Tzu's "The Art of War" is that a commander must possess deep knowledge of both their own capabilities and those of their enemy. He famously argued that if you know both yourself and your opponent, you need not fear the outcome of a hundred battles. This emphasis on intelligence and self-awareness is vital for strategic success.

147. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Throughout history, nuclear weapons have primarily functioned as instruments of deterrence rather than practical tools for warfighting. Their immense destructive power makes their use almost irrational. Conversely, the use of biological weapons is not widely accepted as a legitimate tactical option; instead, it is strictly prohibited by international law and is considered a violation of global norms regarding war.

148. (D) India views it as discriminatory 'have-not' division
India has consistently refused to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, arguing that the agreement is fundamentally discriminatory. India views the treaty as creating a division between nuclear "haves" and "have-nots" and believes it places unfair restrictions on non-nuclear states while allowing nuclear powers to maintain their arsenals. India instead advocates for a universal and non-discriminatory process toward disarmament.

149. (C) John Boyd
The OODA Loop, which stands for Observe, Orient, Decide, and Act, is a decision-making cycle developed by military strategist John Boyd. It was originally designed for air combat but has become highly relevant to information warfare and the revolution in military affairs. The concept emphasizes the importance of making faster and more effective decisions than an adversary to achieve strategic dominance.

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150. (B) Immediate use of massive offensive force to destroy an aggressor state
The traditional principles of United Nations peacekeeping include the consent of the parties involved, maintaining impartiality, and the non-use of force except in self-defense or to protect the mandate. The immediate use of massive offensive force to destroy an aggressor is a feature of peace enforcement or collective defense, which differs fundamentally from the role and purpose of missions.

151. (D) Food Security
Investing in agricultural supply chains and building strategic grain reserves are key actions taken by states to enhance their food security.

This ensures that the population has reliable access to essential nutrition even during global market disruptions or domestic crises. Such measures are vital for maintaining social stability and national resilience against non-traditional threats that can cause significant public distress.

152. (A) A specific, universally accepted cyber treaty
While there are various regional and international agreements related to cybercrime and behavior in cyberspace, there is currently no specific and universally accepted global treaty that governs all aspects of cyber security or cyber warfare. Other statements correctly identify that cyber attacks can cause physical damage, that Stuxnet was a cyber weapon, and that DDoS attacks are common methods.

153. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Key strategic concepts describe different ways states interact. Balancing involves aligning against a dominant threat, while bandwagoning means joining the stronger power for survival. Deterrence is the use of threats to prevent an action from occurring. Compellence is the use of pressure to force an adversary to stop or reverse an action they have already initiated during a conflict.

154. (A) Democracies almost never go to war with one another.
The fundamental premise of democratic peace theory is that established democracies almost never engage in armed conflict with one another. This observation suggests that shared democratic values, institutional constraints, and economic interdependence create a "zone of peace" between such states. While democracies may still fight against non-democratic regimes, their relations with each other are characterized by peaceful dispute resolution.

155. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Traditional security focuses on the state and the use of military force to defend national borders. Non-traditional security expands this agenda to include environmental, health, and economic issues. However, it does not completely ignore the state; rather, it argues that state actions must also address these broader challenges to ensure the survival and well-being of both the nation and individuals.

156. (B) Ransomware-induced hospital system crashes endangering lives
This scenario demonstrates a direct cause-and-effect relationship where a cyber-attack leads to serious physical and human consequences. When ransomware crashes hospital systems, it can endanger lives by disrupting critical medical services and access to patient records. This highlights how vulnerabilities in digital infrastructure can be exploited to cause significant harm to society, transcending the purely digital realm of computer code.

157. (C) Adherence to the Geneva Conventions and laws of armed conflict
Modern terrorism is characterized by the use of asymmetric tactics, seeking maximum media attention, and targeting symbolic locations or populations to induce fear. Terrorist groups generally do not adhere to the Geneva Conventions or other established laws of armed conflict, as their tactics often involve the deliberate targeting of non-combatants, which is strictly forbidden by these international humanitarian laws.

158. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The massive arms race between the USA and the USSR during the Cold War was driven by the logic of mutually assured destruction. Each superpower sought to maintain a credible nuclear deterrent by ensuring they could survive a first strike and respond with overwhelming force. This "balance of terror" effectively prevented a direct military conflict between the two nuclear-armed rivals.

159. (A) Third-party assistance in reaching voluntary settlements
Mediation is a conflict resolution process where a neutral third party assists the disputing sides in reaching a voluntary and mutually acceptable settlement. Unlike arbitration, the mediator does not have the power to impose a binding decision. Instead, they facilitate communication, build trust, and help the parties explore creative solutions to their differences, aiming for a sustainable outcome.

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160. (B) A.T. Mahan - Proponent of land-based heartland control
Alfred Thayer Mahan was a proponent of sea power and the command of the oceans, rather than land-based control. The "Heartland Theory" is actually associated with Halford Mackinder. Other pairs, such as Henry Kissinger and shuttle diplomacy, William Mitchell and air force independence, and Carl von Clausewitz and the "fog of war," are correctly matched to their respective thinkers.

161. (B) Space/Information warfare
When a state develops capabilities to intercept or destroy an adversary's communications satellites, it is engaging in the domains of space and information warfare. Satellites are critical for modern military communication, navigation, and surveillance. Disrupting these assets can blind an opponent and cripple their ability to coordinate forces, making the space domain a vital area of strategic competition.

162. (A) Human Security
Human security is the concept that emphasizes protecting individuals from sudden and hurtful disruptions in their daily lives, including threats to their health, safety, and economic well-being. This approach recognizes that individual survival and dignity are as important as the defense of national borders. It addresses a wide range of human vulnerabilities beyond purely military or state-centric security concerns.

163. (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
The strategic defense initiative, proposed by President Ronald Reagan and nicknamed "Star Wars," aimed to develop a space-based system to protect the USA from ballistic missiles. While it led to significant technological research, it did not successfully deploy a fully functional global shield by 1990. The project was highly controversial and faced numerous technical and political challenges during its development.

164. (D) Grievance-driven asymmetric challenges to state authority
Low intensity conflicts are primarily caused by grievance-driven challenges to state authority, often involving issues related to social, economic, or political inequality. These conflicts are typically asymmetric, with non-state actors using unconventional tactics like insurgency and subversion to achieve their goals. They operate below the level of full-scale conventional war but can cause significant instability and human suffering.

165. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
The revolution in military affairs does not imply a slow or gradual evolution; rather, it involves rapid and profound changes in the character of warfare. These shifts are driven by the innovative application of new technologies, such as advanced sensors and precision-guided weapons, combined with significant adaptations in military organization and operational concepts, fundamentally altering how modern conflicts are conducted.

166. (B) Encompassing military, economic, and ecological security
Comprehensive security is a broad framework that defines national safety as more than just military defense. It encompasses various dimensions, including economic stability, ecological sustainability, and social well-being. This approach recognizes that the security of a state is multi-faceted and that traditional military power alone is insufficient for ensuring long-term national resilience and the overall safety of its citizens.

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167. (D) Heavy reliance on cyber and biological agents as primary weapons
Conventional warfare is characterized by the use of standard weapons and tactics by uniformed military forces on defined battlefields. It generally follows established international laws and maintains a clear distinction between combatants and civilians. While modern militaries use technology, a heavy reliance on cyber and biological agents as primary weapons is a characteristic of unconventional and weapons of mass destruction warfare.

168. (B) 1, 3, and 4 only
India's security policy has featured non-alignment, the doctrine of credible minimum deterrence, and an emphasis on defense indigenization. However, India does not avoid the Indian Ocean Region; it is a central area of strategic focus. Furthermore, India advocates

for a multipolar world and a balanced regional security architecture rather than a unipolar system dominated by any single state.

169. (C) Symptom containment versus deep root-cause resolution
The primary difference between conflict management and conflict resolution lies in their goals. Conflict management focuses on containing the symptoms of a dispute and limiting the level of violence to prevent escalation. In contrast, conflict resolution seeks to address the deep-seated root causes of the disagreement to reach a sustainable and lasting peace that transforms the relationship between the involved parties.

170. (B) Negative peace is simply the absence of war.
While negative peace is often defined as the absence of war, some peace theorists argue that this definition is too simplistic. They suggest that even without active combat, a society may still experience high levels of tension and latent conflict. Therefore, equating negative peace solely with the absence of formal warfare might be viewed as an incomplete understanding of overall stability.

171. (D) Information and Cyber Security
Information and cyber security involves the strategic protection of computer systems, digital networks, and sensitive data from unauthorized access, damage, or theft. As national infrastructure and military systems become increasingly interconnected, securing these digital assets has become a critical component of overall national security. This domain addresses threats from both individual hackers and sophisticated state-sponsored cyber-attacks.

172. (B) The Copenhagen School
Securitization theory, which examines how specific issues are constructed as existential threats through political discourse, was developed by scholars associated with the Copenhagen School. This framework analyzes the process by which a securitizing actor convinces an audience to accept emergency measures that go beyond normal political rules to protect a referent object, fundamentally altering how policy is conducted.

173. (A) 1, 2, 3, 4
International arms control efforts progressed through several landmark treaties. The Partial Test Ban Treaty was signed in 1963 to limit nuclear testing. This was followed by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1968. In the post-Cold War era, the Chemical Weapons Convention was opened for signature in 1993, followed by the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in 1996 to ban tests.

174. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
India's no first use policy does not mean that it will never use nuclear weapons under any circumstances. Instead, it is a commitment that India will not be the first to initiate a nuclear strike. However, the policy dictates that nuclear weapons will be used in a massive retaliatory strike if India or its forces are attacked with nuclear weapons.

175. (A) Conflict-triggering drought leading to crop failures
Environmental security is compromised when ecological changes lead to social or political instability. A prime example is when severe drought causes widespread crop failures, which can trigger food shortages, mass migration, and internal or interstate conflict over dwindling resources. This illustrates how environmental factors can act as threat multipliers, undermining the stability of a nation and the well-being of its population.

176. (B) Imposition of a single global culture
Elements of national security traditionally include military strength, economic resilience, and social cohesion, which work together to protect the state and its citizens. However, the imposition of a single global culture is not considered an element of national security; in fact, such attempts could lead to increased international tension and undermine the diversity and sovereignty of different nations.

177. (B) Calculating and rational actor
The strategic logic of deterrence is based on the fundamental assumption that the adversary is a rational and calculating actor. It assumes that the opponent will weigh the potential benefits of an action against the threatened costs of retaliation.

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For deterrence to be effective, the opponent must be capable of understanding the threat and making decisions based on self-interest.

178. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
Different modes of warfare are defined by their unique characteristics and technologies. Conventional warfare involves engagements by uniformed armies using standard weapons. Asymmetric warfare occurs between forces of vastly unequal military power. Cyber warfare utilizes malware and digital tools to disrupt infrastructure. Nuclear warfare is defined by the use of weapons of mass destruction, which can cause immense devastation.

179. (C) Regulating arms races for strategic stability
The fundamental goal of "Arms Control" is to regulate and limit the development, production, and deployment of weapons in order to maintain strategic stability between nations. It seeks to reduce the risk of war, prevent dangerous arms races, and build mutual trust through agreements, inspections, and communication. Arms control does not necessarily eliminate all weapons but manages them responsibly.

180. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Gender security is not limited to domestic environments but is a broader concept in international relations. It recognizes that conflict affects different genders in unique ways and highlights the specific vulnerabilities of both men and women during and after war. This perspective advocates for the inclusion of women in peace processes and conflict resolution to ensure more sustainable security.

181. (C) Carl von Clausewitz
Carl von Clausewitz was a Prussian general and influential military theorist who famously argued that war is merely the continuation of policy by other means. This central idea emphasizes that military conflict is not an end in itself but is always subordinate to political goals. His work continues to shape how strategy and the relationship between war and politics are understood.

182. (B) It exclusively targets military personnel in combat zones.
Terrorism is a tactic used to achieve political or ideological goals by creating widespread fear. A key feature of terrorism is that it often deliberately targets non-combatants and civilian populations rather than being exclusively confined to military personnel in combat zones. It also relies heavily on media coverage to amplify its psychological impact on a much broader audience beyond the victims.

183. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The doctrine of massive retaliation became less credible as the Soviet Union developed its own significant nuclear retaliatory capabilities. During this period, the threat of a full-scale US nuclear response to a minor conventional incursion became less believable, as it would likely lead to the mutual destruction of both superpowers. This shift in the strategic balance necessitated flexible options.

184. (A) The central landmass of Eurasia
Halford Mackinder's Heartland Theory posited that the key to global dominance lay in controlling the vast interior region of the Eurasian landmass. He argued that the strategic position and resources of this area made it the "pivot" of world history. This land-based theory of power contrasted with maritime-focused strategies and influenced the geopolitical thinking of major powers throughout history.

185. (C) Proxy war / State-sponsored terrorism
When a state provides covert support, such as funding and weapons, to insurgent groups in a neighboring country to destabilize its government, it is engaging in proxy warfare or state-sponsored terrorism. This strategy allows the sponsoring state to achieve its political goals and weaken a rival without entering into a direct, high-risk military conflict, thus avoiding immediate international condemnation.

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186. (A) Increasing the lethality of conventional weapons
The goals of disarmament include reducing the likelihood of war, building international trust, and saving economic resources by limiting military spending. Therefore, increasing the lethality or

sophistication of conventional weapons is an exception to these objectives and would be seen as part of an arms race. Disarmament focuses on the reduction or total elimination of weapons.

187. (D) Antoine-Henri Jomini
Antoine-Henri Jomini was a Swiss military theorist whose work focused on the scientific and geometric principles of war. He emphasized the importance of interior lines of operation and the systematic organization of military maneuvers. His ideas were highly influential in the nineteenth century, providing a prescriptive framework for commanders to achieve victory through the efficient application of military science.

188. (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
Contemporary warfare includes cyber and information warfare, which can blur traditional lines between peace and conflict. The revolution in military affairs is driven by advanced command and intelligence systems. However, conventional warfare has not been rendered obsolete by nuclear weapons. Instead, conventional conflicts continue to occur, often under the shadow of nuclear deterrence, requiring diverse and capable military forces.

189. (C) Existential threats like climate and pandemics
Non-traditional security focuses on existential threats that transcend national borders and are not primarily military in nature. These include challenges such as climate change, global pandemics, resource scarcity, and transnational organized crime. This field of study recognizes that these issues can be as threatening to human survival and state stability as a traditional military invasion, requiring cooperation.

190. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Food security is achieved when all people have physical and economic access to sufficient and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs. While it is an agricultural concern, it also has profound implications for national security. Food shortages can lead to civil unrest, political instability, and conflict, making it a vital component of a nation's overall safety and resilience.

191. (A) Preventing disputes from arising or escalating
Preventive diplomacy involves using diplomatic tools to prevent disputes from arising between parties, to stop existing disputes from escalating into open conflicts, and to limit the spread of violence when it occurs. It focuses on early intervention through negotiation, mediation, and dialogue to preserve peace and avoid the high human and economic costs associated with military conflict.

192. (B) Securing maritime trade routes against piracy
While maritime security often involves anti-piracy efforts, some frameworks classify this as a policing or law enforcement issue rather than a core security threat. From a narrow state-centric perspective, threats to trade routes might be viewed differently than direct military aggression. Therefore, this pairing may be seen as less accurate than the established links between pandemics and health.

193. (B) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
Kautilya's statecraft includes the ruler as a central element, the Mandala theory for geopolitics, and the critical role of spies. He also advocated for the stable treatment of conquered people. However, he did not completely reject danda, or force; in his pragmatic approach, force was a necessary tool of statecraft to be used when diplomacy and conciliation failed.

194. (A) Provide proportionate non-nuclear options
The shift in US strategy from massive retaliation to flexible response was primarily driven by the need to provide more military options during a crisis. Under the previous doctrine, any aggression could potentially lead to nuclear war. Flexible response allowed the United States to respond proportionately to various levels of threat using conventional forces, thereby reducing the immediate risk of escalation.

195. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Mutually assured destruction does not require a vulnerable first-strike capability; instead, it relies on both sides having a survivable second-strike capability to ensure retaliation. This condition contributes to strategic stability by making the costs of initiating a nuclear war unacceptably high for both parties, effectively making such

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a conflict unwinnable and thus deterring its initiation by leaders.

196. (D) Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI)
The doctrine that envisioned a space-based shield to intercept incoming ballistic missiles is the strategic defense initiative. Introduced during the Reagan administration, it aimed to use advanced technology to neutralize the nuclear threat by destroying missiles in flight. This represented a shift toward defensive systems and was a departure from the reliance on offensive retaliation that characterized strategies.

197. (C) Energy Security
By investing in renewable energy and building strategic petroleum reserves, a nation is taking proactive steps to enhance its energy security. These measures reduce vulnerability to global supply disruptions and price volatility in the oil market. Ensuring a stable and diverse energy supply is essential for maintaining national economic stability, industrial productivity, and the overall functioning of modern society against threats.

198. (B) International NGOs
Traditional elements of state power include tangible factors like geography, population, and military capacity, which allow a nation to influence the international system. International non-governmental organizations, while influential in global affairs, are non-state actors and are not considered internal elements of a state's own power. They operate independently of governments and often challenge or support state policies.

199. (D) Biological warfare / Bioterrorism
If a terrorist group releases a deadly virus in a public transit system, they are employing biological warfare or bioterrorism. This involves using living organisms or toxins to cause widespread illness, death, and social panic. Because of its potential for mass casualties and the difficulty of containment, such an act is a major non-traditional security challenge that requires specialized health responses.

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200. (A) It recognizes the strategic importance of choke points like the Strait of Malacca.
India's maritime doctrine recognizes the critical strategic importance of maritime choke points, such as the Strait of Malacca, for international trade and security. Protecting these routes is essential for ensuring the free flow of commerce and energy resources. The doctrine envisions an expanded role for the Indian Navy beyond immediate coastal defense, emphasizing its presence throughout the Indian Ocean.

201. (C) Boutros Boutros-Ghali
The concept of peacebuilding was prominently introduced and defined by United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in his landmark 1992 report, "An Agenda for Peace." This report outlined various tools for maintaining international security, including preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, and peacekeeping. It emphasized the importance of addressing the structural causes of conflict through long-term reconstruction and development in post-conflict societies.

202. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The Biological Weapons Convention is a significant treaty but is noted for its lack of a formal, legally binding verification regime to monitor compliance. In contrast, the Chemical Weapons Convention includes a robust and intrusive verification mechanism managed by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. This difference affects the level of transparency and confidence in implementation.

203. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
Strategic thought is defined by several core ideas from influential thinkers. Sun Tzu emphasized the goal of winning without fighting through strategy. Carl von Clausewitz identified friction as a fundamental element of war. Alfred Thayer Mahan focused on the strategic importance of sea power. Halford Mackinder developed the heartland theory to explain the geopolitical significance of the Eurasian interior.

204. (D) Massed frontal infantry assaults
The revolution in military affairs is characterized by the use of high-technology systems such as precision-guided munitions, unmanned aerial vehicles, and advanced command and control

networks. These advancements move away from traditional tactics like massed frontal infantry assaults, which were common in earlier eras of warfare. Instead, RMA focuses on achieving objectives through precision, speed, and superior situational awareness.

205. (C) Referent object is the individual
The fundamental difference between human security and national security lies in the referent object. Traditional national security focuses on protecting the state and its territory through military defense. Human security shifts this focus to the individual, aiming to protect people from a wide range of threats to their well-being, including poverty, disease, and political repression, regardless of borders.

206. (D) It relies solely on the use of military superiority to crush the opponent.
Conflict resolution is a sustainable process that seeks to address the underlying root causes of a dispute through peaceful means such as negotiation and mediation. Its goal is to achieve a long-term peace that satisfies all parties. Therefore, the idea that it relies solely on the use of military superiority to crush an opponent is incorrect, as that would describe conflict.

207. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Cyber warfare presents a unique challenge to international security because of the difficulties associated with attribution. Perpetrators can often hide their identities and locations, making it hard to hold specific states or actors responsible for an attack. This uncertainty complicates the process of retaliation and deterrence, as it is difficult to respond effectively when the source is unknown.

208. (B) Anarchic and lacks a supreme authority
The security dilemma is most acute in an anarchic international system where there is no central authority to enforce rules or guarantee safety. In this environment, states must rely on their own military power for survival. The resulting uncertainty and mistrust mean that even purely defensive actions can be perceived as threats by others, leading to escalating tensions.

209. (B) Electronic / Information warfare
Using electromagnetic jamming to destroy or disrupt an adversary's military communication and radar systems is an example of electronic and information warfare. This approach targets the sensors and networks that are essential for modern military operations. By blinding or deafening the opponent, a state can achieve a significant advantage on the battlefield without necessarily using traditional physical weapons or force.

210. (A) Anarchy - The absence of a central, overarching global authority
In international relations theory, anarchy refers specifically to the absence of a central, overarching global authority with the power to enforce rules on sovereign states. This condition is a foundational concept in realism and other theories. Other terms, such as bipolarity and multipolarity, describe the distribution of power among multiple states rather than the absence of a world government.

211. (D) Preemptive nuclear strikes against non-nuclear states
India's nuclear doctrine is built on several key tenets, including no first use, a commitment to massive retaliation if attacked, and the maintenance of a credible minimum deterrence. It does not include the use of preemptive nuclear strikes against non-nuclear states; in fact, India's policy provides negative security guarantees to states that do not possess nuclear weapons, reinforcing its defensive posture.

212. (D) Environmental Security threat
Environmental security is the non-traditional concept that addresses the threats posed by global ecological changes, such as global warming, rising sea levels, and extreme weather. These factors can lead to social instability, resource competition, and mass migration, making them a critical concern for both national and international stability. Protecting the environment is therefore seen as a key component of survival.

213. (A) 1, 2, and 4 only
Theorists like Giulio Douhet argued that air power could win wars by destroying cities and morale, while William Mitchell demonstrated the vulnerability of naval vessels to air attack.

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Strategic bombing was indeed a major feature of the Second World War. However, Alexander de Seversky was an advocate for offensive air power and strategic bombing rather than purely defensive air.

214. (B) Threatening unacceptable costs to persuade an opponent not to act
The fundamental mechanism of deterrence is the use of threats to persuade an adversary that the costs and risks of a specific action would far outweigh any potential benefits. By maintaining a credible capability to inflict unacceptable punishment, a state aims to influence the opponent's decision-making process and prevent them from initiating aggression, maintaining peace through power.

215. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Disarmament and arms control are related but distinct concepts in international security. Arms control focuses on regulating and managing the competition for weapons to enhance strategic stability and prevent unintentional war. In contrast, disarmament specifically seeks the actual reduction or total elimination of weapons or entire categories of armaments, representing a more radical step toward demilitarization.

216. (A) Henry Kissinger
Henry Kissinger is a prominent scholar and practitioner associated with the tradition of Realpolitik. This approach to international relations emphasizes pragmatic diplomacy based on power dynamics and national interests rather than moral or ideological considerations. His work during the Cold War focused on maintaining a global balance of power through strategic negotiations and calculated military and economic pressure.

217. (D) It primarily relies on strategic nuclear weapons.
Low intensity conflict is characterized by political and social struggles that take place below the threshold of conventional war. It involves unconventional methods like insurgency and counter-insurgency rather than purely military battles. Therefore, the idea that it primarily relies on strategic nuclear weapons is incorrect; such weapons are designed for high-intensity deterrence rather than the nature of low-level conflicts.

218. (A) 1, 2, and 3 only
The NMD aims to protect against limited attacks, MAD stabilized the Cold War through mutual vulnerability, and flexible response provided tailored options. However, massive retaliation is no longer the primary US nuclear doctrine, and the strategic defense initiative was never fully successfully deployed as a functional global shield, despite the significant technological research and funding it received.

219. (D) Peacebuilding
Peacebuilding is the comprehensive process of transitioning a society from conflict to sustainable peace by addressing underlying structural issues such as economic inequality and political instability. It involves a wide range of activities beyond immediate peacekeeping, including institutional reform, social reconciliation, and development. This long-term approach aims to prevent the recurrence of violence by building the foundations for a stable society.

220. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Cyber attacks are not always state-sponsored; they can also be carried out by independent hackers, criminal organizations, or other non-state actors. The asymmetric nature of cyber warfare allows these small groups or individuals to inflict disproportionate damage on much larger and more powerful entities. This characteristic makes cyber security a complex challenge that requires defending against a wide variety of potential threats.

221. (C) Bombing to force troop withdrawal from previously occupied territory
Compellence is the use of threats or limited force to persuade an adversary to stop or reverse an action they have already begun. Bombing to force an opponent to withdraw troops from occupied territory is a classic example of this strategy. It differs from deterrence, which aims to prevent an action from occurring in the first place, by focusing on changing behavior.

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222. (D) Transnational Organized Crime - Traditional Military Security
Transnational organized crime is considered a non-traditional security threat rather than a traditional military one. Traditional military security focuses on state-to-state aggression and territorial defense. Other pairs, such as pandemics and health security, or fossil fuel scarcity and energy security, are correctly categorized. Non-traditional threats often require cooperation between law enforcement, health agencies, and other non-military institutions.

223. (A) 1, 4, 3, 2
United States security policy evolved through several key milestones. The Truman Doctrine was formulated in 1947 to contain the spread of communism. This was followed by the articulation of massive retaliation in 1954. The Kennedy administration then adopted the flexible response doctrine in 1961. Finally, the strategic defense initiative was announced in 1983, marking a new phase in strategy.

224. (B) Udasina (The Democratic Electorate)
Kautilya's Mandala theory identifies several types of states in a regional system, including the Vijigishu (the conqueror), the Mitra (the ally), and the Ari (the enemy). While the theory includes an Udasina (neutral or indifferent state), the term "democratic electorate" is a modern concept that did not exist in Kautilya's ancient framework. His focus was on the kings.

225. (B) Smart Power / Comprehensive Security
Using a combination of diplomacy, economic sanctions, and psychological operations to achieve national goals is an application of smart power and comprehensive security. This approach integrates various tools of influence beyond purely military force to protect national interests and deter adversaries. It recognizes that in a complex global environment, a multifaceted strategy is more effective than relying on any single tool.

226. (A) Complete elimination of all nuclear weapons
Nuclear disarmament refers specifically to the complete elimination of all nuclear weapons from a nation's or the entire world's arsenal. While many treaties like the NPT call for progress toward this goal, it has not yet been achieved globally. It differs from arms control, which focuses on regulating and managing the existing weapons to maintain stability rather than their total removal.

227. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Food insecurity is a significant driver of both internal and cross-border conflicts because it can exacerbate existing social inequalities and political instability. When essential resources become scarce, it can lead to public distress, riots, and even insurgencies against established authority. Addressing the root causes of food insecurity is therefore essential for maintaining regional peace and national security in many regions.

228. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Different security concepts describe various ways to organize international relations. Collective security is based on the idea that an attack on one member is an attack on all. Balance of power focuses on preventing any single state from dominating the system. Hegemony refers to dominance by a single major power. Non-alignment is the policy of remaining independent of power blocs.

229. (C) Social and economic structures that inherently disadvantage and harm certain groups
Structural violence, as defined by Johan Galtung, is a form of harm where social and economic structures inherently disadvantage certain groups of people, preventing them from meeting their basic needs. Unlike direct physical violence, it is built into the systems of a society and can lead to suffering, disease, and reduced life expectancy. Addressing this is essential for achieving peace.

230. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Sun Tzu's strategic philosophy does not focus on the absolute destruction of the enemy in a pitched battle. Instead, he strongly advocates for the use of deception, intelligence, and maneuver to achieve victory. His primary goal is to subdue the enemy without fighting, thereby preserving resources and achieving political objectives through strategy rather than costly direct military confrontation.

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231. (D) Exploiting or defending information systems
Information warfare is a broad concept that involves the use of various methods to exploit or defend information and its supporting digital and psychological systems. This includes activities such as cyber-attacks, electronic jamming, and psychological operations aimed at influencing the perceptions and behavior of an adversary. It is a critical component of modern conflict, reflecting the importance of digital networks.

232. (A) Preemptive Strike - Waiting to be attacked before responding
A preemptive strike is an action taken to strike an enemy first when an attack is perceived as imminent, rather than waiting to be attacked. This contrasts with the definition provided in the pairing. Other doctrines such as the strategic defense initiative, mutually assured destruction, and flexible response are correctly paired with their primary characteristics and roles in nuclear strategy.

233. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The revolution in military affairs significantly favors technologically advanced nations because it relies on highly sophisticated systems such as precision-guided weapons and integrated command networks. Developing and maintaining these capabilities requires massive and sustained investments in research and development, which many smaller or less developed states cannot afford. This creates a significant gap in conventional military power between states.

234. (A) Integrative negotiation (Principled negotiation)
A "win-win" outcome is most closely associated with integrative or principled negotiation. In this process, parties focus on their underlying interests rather than fixed positions, seeking to create value and find creative solutions that benefit both sides. This approach aims to build a sustainable and cooperative relationship, contrasting with distributive bargaining where one party's gain is necessarily another's loss.

235. (D) State A buys defensive surface-to-air missiles, causing State B to feel threatened and increase its bomber fleet.
This scenario perfectly illustrates the security dilemma in an anarchic international system. When State A buys defensive surface-to-air missiles to increase its security, State B perceives this as a threat to its own offensive capabilities and responds by increasing its bomber fleet. This cycle of mutual suspicion and counter-measures leads to increased tensions and an arms race without necessarily enhancing safety.

236. (B) Expansionist territorial ambitions
India's current foreign and security policy is guided by principles such as strategic autonomy, active participation in UN peacekeeping, and the pursuit of multi-alignment with various global powers. It does not include expansionist territorial ambitions; instead, India's strategic posture is primarily focused on defending its existing borders, maintaining regional stability, and promoting its economic development within a peaceful world order.

237. (A) 1, 2, and 3 only
Chemical warfare involves the use of toxic substances like nerve agents to kill or incapacitate. The Chemical Weapons Convention aims to eliminate these weapons globally. However, they are not considered standard or legal weapons for modern conventional forces. Their use is strictly prohibited under international law and is widely condemned as a violation of humanitarian principles during any armed conflict.

238. (D) Recognizing differential conflict impact and ensuring female participation
Gender security in international relations focuses on recognizing that conflict and insecurity affect different genders in unique and often disproportionate ways. It also emphasizes the importance of ensuring the participation of women in peace processes, conflict resolution, and post-conflict reconstruction. This perspective aims to create more inclusive and sustainable security policies by addressing the specific vulnerabilities of all individuals.

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production and ecological balance. Failures in the environment lead to resource scarcity, which in turn strains the public health of a population. This interconnectedness highlights how non-traditional threats can cascade, undermining the overall stability and well-being of a developing nation.

292. (A) Resource scarcity
Agricultural failures in a region experiencing severe climatic shifts result in resource scarcity, particularly concerning food and water supplies. This shortage can lead to social instability and increased competition for essential goods. Such environmental challenges demonstrate the critical link between ecological stability and the ability of a state to provide for the basic needs of its citizens.

293. (D) Power access to sustain development and services
Energy Security is crucial because it provides power access to sustain development and services, which are vital for a nation's stability. Reliable energy is needed to support economic growth, healthcare, and other essential social infrastructure. Without secure energy sources, a region may struggle to manage the impacts of other non-traditional threats like environmental shifts or health crises.

294. (B) Disproportionate impact and increased vulnerability
When societal structures are weakened by resource scarcity, Human Security and Gender Security experience disproportionate impact and increased vulnerability. Marginalized populations often bear the brunt of instability caused by environmental and economic failures. This deterioration of social safety nets can lead to broader insecurity, creating conditions where terrorism and other forms of violence are more likely to occur.

295. (C) Compromised state networks
Risks related to Cyber Security are heightened by compromised state networks, which can be exploited by various actors to cause disruption. When a nation's internal infrastructure is weakened by other security challenges, its digital systems become more vulnerable to intrusion. Protecting these technological networks is essential for maintaining national stability and preventing adversaries from targeting critical command functions.

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296. (D) Mediating disputes through diplomacy
Conflict Resolution serves as a diplomatic methodology for mediating disputes through diplomacy and transitioning parties toward sustainable peace. It involves identifying and addressing the root causes of tension between warring sides rather than just stopping active fighting. By facilitating communication and negotiation, conflict resolution provides a structured pathway for resolving hostilities and establishing a stable long-term relationship.

297. (A) The proliferation of specific weapon systems
Arms Control policies primarily focus on regulating the proliferation of specific weapon systems to prevent uncontrolled arms races. By setting limits on certain types of technology or military hardware, these policies reduce the likelihood of accidental escalations between states. Arms control aims to stabilize security environments by ensuring that no single party can gain an overwhelming or destabilizing advantage.

298. (B) Active reduction or elimination of arsenals
Disarmament differs from Arms Control because it involves the active reduction or elimination of arsenals rather than just regulating their proliferation. While Arms Control focuses on managing existing levels of weaponry, Disarmament seeks to remove weapons from the equation entirely to build mutual trust. This process is a critical step in de-escalating military posturing and moving toward sustainable peace.

299. (B) Agreeing to an Arms Control treaty capping troop deployments
Agreeing to an Arms Control treaty capping troop deployments is the first step taken to stabilize the bilateral border dispute in the case study. This initial measure helps to limit military presence in the contested area and reduce immediate tensions. It establishes a foundation of regulated behavior that allows the parties to move toward more comprehensive disarmament and resolution.

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248. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The concept of human security broadens the definition of security by shifting the focus from the defense of national borders to the protection of individuals. This approach recognizes that people face a wide range of threats beyond traditional military aggression, such as poverty, disease, and political repression. Addressing these vulnerabilities is essential for ensuring true safety and well-being.

249. (C) Tech-driven change in war character
The revolution in military affairs refers to a fundamental and rapid change in the character of warfare. This shift is driven by the innovative application of new technologies, such as advanced digital systems and precision weapons, combined with significant adaptations in military organization and operational doctrine. RMA provides a decisive advantage to states that successfully integrate these advancements.

250. (A) Indo-Pacific and the Indian Ocean
India's current maritime strategy involves a strong focus on the Indo-Pacific and the broader Indian Ocean Region. This approach aims to counter emerging geopolitical challenges, protect vital sea lines of communication, and enhance regional security through partnerships and a robust naval presence. By securing these maritime interests, India seeks to maintain a balance of power and ensure economic resilience.

251. (B) From isolated defense strategies to collective international frameworks
The shift highlights how contemporary security moves beyond isolated defense strategies toward collective international frameworks. This transition requires states to form alliances and collaborative architectures rather than relying on internal border protection alone. Safeguarding sovereignty now necessitates linking national stability to the broader international system, reflecting an evolution from exclusive defense to inclusive, interdependent global security models.

252. (A) Military defense of territorial boundaries
Traditional security paradigms emphasize the military defense of territorial boundaries as the primary method for protecting state sovereignty. This model focuses heavily on internal capability enhancement and maintaining physical borders against external threats. Modern perspectives suggest this approach is insufficient on its own, as it treats national security in a vacuum without considering the necessary collaborative international frameworks.

253. (C) Diplomatic alliances and defense treaties
Modern security frameworks incorporate diverse elements like diplomatic alliances and defense treaties to build comprehensive international models. These components move beyond traditional border protection to integrate proactive international cooperation. By linking sovereign interests with global stability requirements, these integrated frameworks ensure that state security is maintained through shared defensive agreements and collaborative diplomatic efforts rather than isolated actions.

254. (D) Focus solely on internal capability and border protection
Conventional security approaches are deemed inadequate today because they focus solely on internal capability and border protection. This isolationist method ignores the reality that modern national security is intricately linked to the stability of the broader international system. Achieving true security requires moving away from traditional vacuum-based strategies toward inclusive models that prioritize global interdependence and collective stability.

255. (C) Sovereign interests with global stability requirements
Successful adaptation to modern international security models requires policymakers to balance sovereign interests with global stability requirements. This strategic equilibrium ensures that while a nation protects its own sovereignty, it also contributes to the wider international system. Balancing these aspects allows states to redefine their security operations, transitioning from exclusive national defense to comprehensive and inclusive international frameworks.

256. (B) Administration and intelligence gathering
Kautilya's strategic framework places a heavy emphasis on administration and intelligence gathering as foundational elements of statecraft. His approach involves rigorous structural management of the state combined

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with pragmatic diplomacy to protect national interests. By meticulously calculating power dynamics among neighbors and utilizing systematic administration, this doctrine provides a structured methodology for maintaining regional influence and internal stability.

257. (D) Psychological dimensions of warfare and deception
Sun Tzu's strategic thought primarily prioritizes the psychological dimensions of warfare and deception. This model emphasizes the importance of subduing an enemy through tactical maneuvering and flexibility rather than direct, conventional combat. By manipulating an adversary's perceptions and creating illusions of strength or weakness, a state can achieve its objectives and secure victory without resorting to bloody battles.

258. (A) By deploying emissaries and spies
Within the framework of Kautilya's doctrine, a state disrupts enemy alliances by deploying emissaries and spies. This method targets the internal stability of the adversary and seeks to weaken their external partnerships through pragmatic and often covert statecraft. Utilizing such intelligence-driven strategies allows a ruler to undermine the power dynamics of neighboring states without immediately initiating conventional warfare.

259. (C) Precipitating a bloodless victory
Manipulating an adversary's perception serves the ultimate goal of precipitating a bloodless victory in Sun Tzu's strategic model. By focusing on deception and tactical flexibility, the framework seeks to overcome the enemy through psychological dominance. Achieving strategic objectives without engaging in direct, violent combat allows a state to preserve its own resources while effectively neutralizing potential regional threats.

260. (A) Achieving objectives without solely relying on force
Integrating the models of Kautilya and Sun Tzu allows for achieving objectives without solely relying on force. This comprehensive approach combines bureaucratic statecraft and intelligence with tactical maneuvering and psychological warfare. By using both structural administration and deceptive tactics, states can navigate complex security environments more effectively, ensuring that military might remains just one of many tools available.

261. (D) It justifies utilizing any means necessary for survival
Machiavelli's principle suggests that the preservation of state power justifies utilizing any means necessary. This pragmatic approach emphasizes that a ruler must prioritize the survival and expansion of the state through ruthless political maneuvering. It positions military force as a fundamental instrument, arguing that the ends of state security and power consolidation justify the specific methods employed.

262. (B) An indispensable tool for a ruler's survival
In the strategic thought of Machiavelli, military force is considered an indispensable tool for a ruler's survival. This perspective views armed power as essential for consolidating authority and eliminating potential rivals who might threaten the state. By maintaining a strong military capability, a ruler ensures the expansion and preservation of power within a competitive and often ruthless political landscape.

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263. (C) As the continuation of political activity by other means
Carl von Clausewitz conceptualizes war as the continuation of political activity by other means. This analytical model suggests that military conflict is not an isolated event but a structured extension of a state's policy objectives. By integrating violence with rational purpose, Clausewitz emphasizes that all armed engagements must be guided by clear political goals rather than blind aggression.

264. (D) Violence, chance, and rational political purpose
According to the analytical model of Clausewitz, the trinity of war consists of violence, chance, and rational political purpose. This framework illustrates the complex nature of conflict, where physical force and unpredictable events must be balanced by clear strategic objectives. Understanding these three elements allows for a more structured integration of military action with the underlying political intent.

265. (A) Specific political objectives
Clausewitz's strategic doctrine requires that military operations remain strictly subordinate to specific political objectives. This ensures that the use of force is always a rational extension of state policy rather than an end in itself. By maintaining this hierarchy, states can ensure that armed conflict serves to achieve concrete political outcomes, preventing military action from becoming aimless or excessive.

266. (B) Command of the sea and maritime trade
A.T. Mahan's strategic thought identifies command of the sea and maritime trade as the primary catalysts for national power. This model highlights the necessity of developing robust naval fleets to protect trade routes and project influence globally. By controlling maritime domains, a nation can secure its economic prosperity and maintain a dominant position within the international political system.

267. (B) Controlling the "Heartland" of Eurasia
H. Mackinder's strategic thought posits that global dominion is achieved by controlling the "Heartland" of Eurasia. This theory shifts the focus of strategy toward the continental landmass, suggesting that the interior of the world's largest continent is the key geographical pivot. Possession of this region provides a state with the resources and position necessary to command global power.

268. (A) Direct strikes on an adversary's vital centers
G. Douhet's strategic thought views the advent of air power as a revolutionary shift that enables direct strikes on an adversary's vital centers. By commanding the air, a state can bypass traditional land and naval defenses to target the enemy's heart directly. This vertical dimension of warfare renders conventional forces secondary, prioritizing the ability to deliver devastating aerial blows.

269. (C) Marginalizing the ultimate efficacy of sea power
A significant consequence of controlling the "Heartland" according to Mackinder's theory is marginalizing the ultimate efficacy of sea power. By dominating the interior of the Eurasian landmass, a state becomes immune to naval pressure and gains a strategic advantage that ocean-based powers cannot easily overcome. This shift highlights the supreme importance of continental control in achieving geopolitical supremacy.

270. (D) Bypassing traditional defenses
Prioritizing Douhet's aerial supremacy in a multi-domain conflict involves bypassing traditional defenses to strike vital centers directly. This strategy utilizes the unique capabilities of air power to ignore geographic barriers like oceans or land fortifications. By focusing on vertical dominance, a state seeks to end conflicts quickly through decisive technological and tactical advantages rather than long, conventional battles.

271. (C) A disproportionately large counter-strike
The doctrine of Massive Retaliation dictates that any aggressive action will be met with a disproportionately large counter-strike. This strategic posture aims to deter potential adversaries by threatening them with catastrophic destruction in response to even limited aggression. By committing to such a severe reaction, the state hopes to make the costs of initiating any conflict unacceptably high.

272. (B) To prevent aggression by making costs unbearably high
The primary aim of the Massive Retaliation doctrine is to prevent aggression by making costs unbearably high for any potential attacker. By promising a devastating and disproportionate response, this strategy seeks to convince adversaries that any benefit from initiating conflict would be outweighed by the total destruction they would face. This high-stakes approach is designed to maintain strategic stability.

273. (D) Discouraging aggression through credible capabilities
General Deterrence focuses on discouraging aggression through credible capabilities and the maintenance of a strong military posture. Unlike rigid retaliatory models, this approach emphasizes the visible readiness of a state to respond to threats before they occur. By ensuring that an adversary believes in the state's ability and will to act, deterrence helps to maintain international peace.

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CHAPTER 05

International Organisations and Global Governance

1. Which of the following best defines 'preventive diplomacy' in the context of international organizations?
(A) The use of military force to resolve an ongoing conflict
(B) Action taken to prevent disputes from arising or escalating into conflicts
(C) Post-conflict reconstruction and economic development
(D) The legal prosecution of war criminals in international courts

2. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): International Organizations play a crucial role in promoting democratization globally.
Reason (R): They often make democratic reforms a condition for membership and financial assistance.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

3. Which of the following is an incorrect statement regarding the role of international organizations in development cooperation?
(A) They facilitate the transfer of financial resources to developing nations.
(B) They provide technical assistance and capacity-building programs.
(C) They mandate the complete dissolution of national sovereignty for aid.
(D) They set global development agendas such as the SDGs.

4. Consider the following statements regarding the role of International Organizations (IOs) in international peace:
I. They provide a forum for diplomatic negotiations.
II. They deploy peacekeeping forces without host state consent.
III. They impose economic sanctions to deter aggression.
IV. They engage in post-conflict peacebuilding.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) II, III, and IV
(C) I, II, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

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5. Which of the following pairs of International Organizations and their primary focus is incorrectly matched?
(A) UN Security Council - International peace and security
(B) World Bank - Long-term economic development
(C) World Health Organization - Military alliances
(D) UNDP - Eradication of poverty and inequality

6. Match List I with List II.
List I: Concept
P. Peacemaking
Q. Peacekeeping
R. Peacebuilding
S. Peace enforcement
List II: Description
1. Use of armed force to mandate peace
2. Diplomatic action to bring hostile parties to agreement
3. Deployment of forces with consent to monitor ceasefires
4. Actions to support structures that strengthen

283. (B) Securing sea lanes and strategic reach
The evolution of India's Maritime Doctrine emphasizes securing sea lanes and expanding strategic reach across oceanic regions. This focus is essential for protecting vital trade routes and projecting naval influence in the contemporary security environment. By maintaining a strong presence at sea, India ensures its economic stability and deters potential naval adversaries from threatening its maritime interests.

284. (A) By securing maritime trade and deterring naval adversaries
The Maritime Doctrine guides naval deployments to secure maritime trade and deter naval adversaries within the broader regional context. This strategy involves positioning naval forces to protect essential sea communication lines and respond to emerging maritime threats. By synchronizing these operations with other security policies, India projects stability and maintains its strategic autonomy in the surrounding oceanic regions.

285. (C) Defensive restraint and strategic autonomy
To manage regional challenges effectively, the integrated evolution of India's doctrines must delicately balance defensive restraint and strategic autonomy. This balance allows India to protect its interests without becoming unnecessarily aggressive, while also maintaining the independence to act in its own best interest. Combining these elements ensures a stable security posture that can adapt to a complex global environment.

286. (D) Conventional warfare
Conventional warfare relies heavily on traditional battlefield confrontations and the direct engagement of military forces. This mode of warfare typically involves defined fronts, large-scale troop movements, and the use of heavy weaponry to defeat an adversary's military. While other modes of warfare have emerged, conventional methods remain a primary way for states to engage in formal military conflict.

287. (C) Destabilizing without triggering full-scale war
State and non-state actors utilize irregular tactics in Low Intensity Conflicts for destabilizing without triggering full-scale war. By using methods such as guerrilla warfare, subversion, or local insurgencies, these actors can weaken an adversary's authority and social cohesion. This approach allows them to achieve political objectives while avoiding the risks and costs associated with traditional battlefield confrontations.

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288. (B) Targeting data infrastructures to disrupt systems
Targeting data infrastructures to disrupt systems exemplifies the Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA) by integrating advanced technology into modern combat. This mode of warfare focuses on information and communication networks rather than physical territory. By disabling command systems and spreading disinformation, combatants can paralyze an opponent's ability to respond effectively, representing a major shift in how wars are fought.

289. (D) To paralyze a target nation's command systems
In a simulated threat environment, Information and Communication warfare is utilized to paralyze a target nation's command systems. By compromising critical data networks, an adversary can disrupt communication between leaders and military forces. This paralysis makes it difficult for the target nation to coordinate a defense, allowing the attacker to exploit vulnerabilities through other methods like low-intensity conflicts.

290. (A) Securing networks and managing threats
Comprehensive defense mechanisms must address securing networks and managing threats to counter new modes of warfare. States need to protect their technological infrastructure from cyberattacks while also developing strategies to handle asymmetrical and low-intensity threats. Maintaining readiness against chemical or nuclear dangers remains essential, requiring a holistic approach that integrates technology, intelligence, and traditional military preparedness.

291. (C) A negative impact on Food and Health Security
Compromised Environmental Security has a direct negative impact on Food and Health Security, as climatic shifts disrupt agricultural

239. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Track I diplomacy involves official governmental negotiations between representatives of states. In contrast, Track II diplomacy is not limited to military commanders but consists of informal and unofficial interactions between a wide variety of non-state actors, such as academics, retired officials, and NGO members. These informal dialogues aim to build trust and explore potential solutions that formal diplomats might not.

240. (B) It depends on the credibility of the threat and the capability to execute it.
For nuclear deterrence to be effective, it must depend on both the actual capability to inflict unacceptable damage and the credibility of the threat to use those weapons if necessary. If either component is missing, the adversary may not be deterred. Deterrence works by influencing the rational calculations of an opponent, persuading them that the costs of aggression outweigh benefits.

241. (B) High dependence on imported fossil fuels
Energy insecurity is primarily caused by a nation's high level of dependence on imported fossil fuels, which can be subject to supply disruptions and price volatility in global markets. This vulnerability can undermine economic stability and national resilience. Addressing energy insecurity involves diversifying energy sources, improving efficiency, and investing in domestic renewable energy to reduce reliance on external suppliers.

242. (A) Massive Retaliation threatened a full-scale nuclear response to any conventional attack.
While the doctrine of massive retaliation is often associated with a nuclear response, some historians argue that it also included a wide range of other strategic measures. From this perspective, characterizing it solely as a threat of full-scale nuclear strikes might be seen as an oversimplification of the broader Eisenhower-era policy that sought a more balanced approach to national defense and containment.

243. (A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
Non-traditional security challenges state-centric views by including human and environmental issues and recognizing threats like cyber terrorism. However, it does not completely reject the need for national defense forces. Instead, it argues that a modern state must be capable of addressing both traditional military threats and a broader range of challenges to ensure the total safety of its population.

244. (D) Assuring non-coercive weapon use
The primary goal of a no first use policy is to provide assurance that a nation will not be the first to initiate a nuclear strike during a conflict. This posture aims to reduce the risk of nuclear escalation and maintain strategic stability by signaling that nuclear weapons are maintained solely for deterrence and retaliation against a nuclear attack by an adversary.

245. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Terrorism relies on asymmetric tactics and the psychological impact of violence to achieve political goals, often avoiding direct confrontation with military forces. However, modern terrorism is rarely confined within national borders. Instead, many terrorist groups have significant transnational links, including international funding, cross-border recruitment, and global ideological networks, making it a complex challenge that requires international cooperation to address.

246. (B) Air command and strategic bombing
Giulio Douhet was a pioneer in air power theory who argued that the command of the air would be the decisive factor in modern warfare. He advocated for the use of strategic bombing to destroy an enemy's vital industrial centers and break the morale of the civilian population. His theories significantly influenced the development of independent air forces and modern air warfare.

247. (A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
Conflict resolution involves various processes for settling disputes. Arbitration involves a neutral third party imposing a legally binding decision. Mediation is a process where a third party helps the disputants reach a voluntary settlement. Negotiation consists of direct dialogue between the parties. Peacekeeping involves the deployment of international personnel to maintain a ceasefire and monitor the specific situation on the ground.

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300. (A) Establishing a pathway to long-term Peace
The ultimate result of integrating Arms Control and Disarmament into Conflict Resolution is establishing a pathway to long-term peace. This structured approach de-escalates military posturing and builds mutual trust between formerly hostile parties. By addressing both the physical tools of war and the underlying political disputes, states can create a sustainable and stable environment that prevents future conflict.

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274. (A) Committing to an all-or-nothing response
Massive Retaliation might lack credibility because it involves committing to an all-or-nothing response regardless of the provocation's scale. If an initial act of aggression is minor, the threat of a full-scale nuclear counter-strike may seem unbelievable or irrational. This rigidity makes it difficult for adversaries to take the threat seriously, potentially failing to deter low-level or incremental aggression.

275. (C) Proportionate and believable
The strategic doctrine of Deterrence requires that threats of retaliation be both proportionate and believable. To be effective, the potential response must match the level of aggression and be something the state is realistically willing to carry out. This calibration ensures that adversaries understand the consequences of their actions are certain, thereby preventing escalation and maintaining overall stability.

276. (A) Complete annihilation of both sides
According to the doctrine of MAD, a full-scale deployment of nuclear weapons results in the complete annihilation of both sides. This outcome creates a grim equilibrium where neither the attacker nor the defender can survive a nuclear exchange. The certainty of mutual destruction acts as a powerful deterrent, as no rational actor would initiate a conflict leading to total ruin.

277. (D) To mitigate the rigidity of MAD
The doctrine of Flexible Response was introduced to mitigate the rigidity of MAD by providing a range of military options. Instead of being forced to choose between total nuclear war or doing nothing, states can respond to aggression at various levels. This evolution allows for a more calibrated and credible defense strategy that covers conventional and low-intensity conflict scenarios.

278. (B) React across a spectrum of warfare methods
Flexible Response allows a state to react across a spectrum of warfare methods, including conventional, low-intensity, and nuclear options. This approach ensures that the response to aggression is appropriate for the specific situation rather than resorting immediately to maximum force. By maintaining diverse capabilities, a state can address various threats more effectively while avoiding unnecessary and catastrophic nuclear escalation.

279. (C) Intercepting incoming space-based threats
The Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) represents a shift toward intercepting incoming space-based threats using advanced anti-ballistic missile systems. This technological framework aims to protect a nation from missile attacks, fundamentally changing the traditional reliance on mutual vulnerability. By focusing on active defense, SDI seeks to move away from the catastrophic threat of total destruction as the only deterrent.

280. (D) Securing unilateral protection over vulnerability
SDI fundamentally challenges the equilibrium of MAD by securing unilateral protection over vulnerability. While MAD relies on the fact that both sides are equally susceptible to destruction, a successful missile defense system would allow one state to block incoming attacks. This shift toward technological protection disrupts the mutual threat mechanism, potentially altering the strategic balance between major nuclear powers.

281. (A) A "No First Use" policy and credible minimum deterrence
India's distinct Nuclear Doctrine is defined by its "No First Use" policy and a commitment to maintaining credible minimum deterrence. This posture signals that India will not initiate a nuclear strike but possesses sufficient retaliatory capability to deter adversaries. By focusing on defensive restraint, the doctrine seeks to prevent nuclear escalation while ensuring national security through a guaranteed counter-strike.

282. (B) Retaliatory purposes against nuclear aggression
Under India's Nuclear Doctrine, nuclear capabilities are strictly utilized for retaliatory purposes against nuclear aggression. This means that nuclear weapons serve as a deterrent intended to prevent others from using similar weapons against the state. By limiting their use to a response against a nuclear strike, India maintains a strategic umbrella that discourages existential threats while avoiding proactive escalation.

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peace
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(C) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2

7. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Democratization by international organizations only occurs through coercive military interventions.
Statement II: Election monitoring and civic education are peaceful tools used by IOs to promote democracy.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

8. Consider the following statements about global governance mechanisms:
I. It involves both state and non-state actors.
II. It operates through a centralized world government.
III. It relies on international treaties and norms.
IV. It addresses transboundary challenges.
V. It undermines absolute state sovereignty.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, III, IV, and V
(B) I, II, III, and IV
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, II, IV, and V

9. What is the primary cause of the "democratic deficit" often cited in international organizations?
(A) Over-representation of developing nations
(B) Excessive funding from private corporations
(C) Lack of direct accountability to the global citizenry
(D) Strict adherence to the one-state-one-vote principle

10. Arrange the establishment of the following international organizations in chronological order:
I. League of Nations
II. United Nations
III. World Trade Organization
IV. International Criminal Court
(A) I, II, III, IV
(B) II, I, IV, III
(C) I, II, IV, III
(D) II, III, I, IV

11. Which organization is considered the exception in terms of applying the "one-state, one-vote" principle?
(A) UN General Assembly
(B) World Health Organization
(C) International Labour Organization
(D) International Monetary Fund

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12. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The UN Security Council has the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace.
Reason (R): The UN Charter grants the Security Council the authority to issue legally binding resolutions.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

13. Which concept involves the application of UN resources to rebuild physical and administrative infrastructure after a war?
(A) Preventive diplomacy
(B) Collective defense
(C) Peacebuilding
(D) Deterrence

14. Consider the following statements regarding UN reforms:
I. Expansion of the Security Council membership is widely debated.
II. Veto power abolition is universally supported by the P5.
III. Enhancing transparency in working methods is a reform goal.
IV. Increasing funding from member states is a continuous challenge.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) II, III, and IV
(C) I, II, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

defense and defense of the mandate.
(C) They are exclusively funded by voluntary donations from private corporations.
(D) They involve military, police, and civilian personnel.

66. Match List I with List II.
List I: Secretary-General
P. Boutros Boutros-Ghali
Q. Kofi Annan
R. Ban Ki-moon
S. António Guterres
List II: Key Initiative/Event
1. Millennium Development Goals
2. An Agenda for Peace
3. Paris Climate Agreement
4. Our Common Agenda
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

67. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The veto power in the UN Security Council is held by ten non-permanent members.
Statement II: A negative vote by a permanent member blocks the adoption of a substantive resolution.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

68. Consider the following dimensions of global governance challenges:
I. Regulating global financial markets.
II. Mitigating transboundary environmental degradation.
III. Eradicating transnational terrorism.
IV. Ensuring equitable access to global commons.
V. Dictating local municipal zoning laws.
Which of the above statements reflect actual issues of global governance?
(A) I, II, III, and IV
(B) I, II, III, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

69. Which factor most severely limits the effectiveness of international environmental law?
(A) The abundance of binding dispute mechanisms
(B) Reliance on national governments for enforcement
(C) Complete ban on scientific research
(D) Uniformity of economic development across states

70. Arrange the following milestones of human rights and international law in chronological order:
I. Adoption of the UDHR
II. Establishment of the League of Nations
III. Creation of the International Criminal Court (Rome Statute)
IV. Adoption of the UN Charter
(A) II, IV, I, III
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) IV, II, I, III
(D) II, I, IV, III

71. The "Brahimi Report" primarily addressed reforms in which area of UN operations?
(A) International Trade Law
(B) Peacekeeping operations
(C) Climate change negotiations
(D) The structure of the Trusteeship Council

72. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Sub-regional organizations like BIMSTEC have gained prominence in South Asia.
Reason (R): The stalled progress of SAARC has led states to seek alternative cooperation mechanisms.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

73. Which term best describes a political system in which authority is shared between a central supranational body and member states?
(A) Confederation
(B) Supranationalism

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UNESCO mandates
(C) Economic policies adopted by regional trade and security blocs
(D) Resource domains falling outside any single state's jurisdiction

24. Consider the following statements regarding challenges related to managing global commons:
I. The tragedy of the commons phenomenon.
II. Lack of overarching enforcement authority.
III. Unequal technological capabilities among states.
IV. Overlapping claims of absolute sovereignty over the commons.
Which of the above statements reflect these challenges accurately?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) I, II, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, II, III, and IV

25. Which of the following is an incorrect pair regarding the global commons?
(A) Antarctica - Antarctic Treaty System
(B) High Seas - UNCLOS
(C) Outer Space - Outer Space Treaty
(D) Cyberspace - Kyoto Protocol

26. Match List I with List II.
List I: Global Commons Issue
P. Ozone depletion
Q. Climate Change
R. High Seas
S. Space exploration
List II: Related Treaty/Concept
1. UNFCCC
2. Montreal Protocol
3. Common Heritage of Mankind
4. Freedom of navigation
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

27. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The concept of the "Common Heritage of Mankind" implies that certain resources should be exploited exclusively by technologically advanced states.
Statement II: The UNCLOS incorporates the Common Heritage of Mankind principle regarding deep seabed mining.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

28. Consider the following treaties governing the global commons:
I. Antarctic Treaty (1959)
II. Outer Space Treaty (1967)
III. Moon Agreement (1979)
IV. UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982)
V. Biological Weapons Convention (1972)
Which of the above are directly meant for managing physical global commons?
(A) I, II, III, and IV
(B) II, III, IV, and V
(C) I, III, IV, and V
(D) I, II, IV, and V

29. What is a primary cause for the difficulty in regulating cyberspace as a global common?
(A) Complete lack of internet infrastructure in developed countries
(B) The dominance of a single global government over the internet
(C) The decentralized nature and involvement of major private actors
(D) The lack of any economic value associated with digital data

30. Arrange the following events related to outer space governance in chronological order:
I. Launch of Sputnik 1
II. Outer Space Treaty
III. Establishment of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)
IV. The Artemis Accords
(A) I, III, II, IV
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) III, I, II, IV
(D) II, I, IV, III

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31. Which of the following areas is NOT traditionally considered a "Global Common"?
(A) The High Seas
(B) The Atmosphere
(C) Outer Space
(D) National Airspace

32. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The management of the global environment requires multilateral cooperation.
Reason (R): Environmental degradation does not respect national borders.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

33. Which concept explains the depletion of a shared resource due to individuals acting rationally in their own self-interest?
(A) Security Dilemma
(B) Tragedy of the Commons
(C) Balance of Power
(D) Democratic Peace Theory

34. Consider the following elements of global governance in the contemporary era:
I. Intergovernmental Organizations
II. Transnational Corporations
III. Non-Governmental Organizations
IV. Bilateral military alliances
Which of the elements above reflect the expanding nature of actors in global governance?
(A) II, III, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) I, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

35. Which of the following is a correct pair regarding regional organizations and their headquarters?
(A) African Union - Johannesburg
(B) SAARC - New Delhi
(C) ASEAN - Jakarta
(D) European Union - Paris

36. Match List I with List II.
List I: Regional Organization
P. European Union
Q. NATO
R. SAARC
S. Mercosur
List II: Core Focus/Nature
1. South American trade bloc
2. Collective security alliance
3. Supranational political and economic union
4. South Asian regional cooperation
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

37. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Regional organizations often serve as building blocks for global governance.
Statement II: Chapter VIII of the UN Charter discourages the involvement of regional arrangements in maintaining peace.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

38. Consider the following statements about the European Union (EU):
I. It operates as a supranational organization.
II. All member states use the Euro as their currency.
III. It has a Common Foreign and Security Policy.
IV. It established a single market guaranteeing the free movement of goods, capital, services, and people.
V. The European Parliament is directly elected by EU citizens.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, III, IV, and V
(B) II, III, IV, and V
(C) I, II, IV, and V
(D) I, II, III, and IV

39. If a trade dispute arises between two South American countries, which sub-regional organization is primarily equipped to mediate economic integration issues between them?
(A) Mercosur
(B) OPEC
(C) ASEAN
(D) NATO

40. Arrange the formation of the following regional organizations in chronological order:
I. ASEAN
II. European Economic Community (EEC)
III. SAARC
IV. African Union (AU replacing OAU)

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(A) II, I, III, IV
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, III, I, IV
(D) III, II, IV, I

41. Which of the following regional organizations is uniquely characterized by the "consensus and non-interference" principle known as its "Way"?
(A) ASEAN
(B) European Union
(C) African Union
(D) NATO

42. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The African Union (AU) has adopted a more interventionist stance compared to its predecessor, the OAU.
Reason (R): The AU's Constitutive Act allows for intervention in a member state in cases of war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

43. What is the primary objective of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)?
(A) Promoting a global free trade area
(B) Managing global oil production levels
(C) Cooperation in security, anti-terrorism, and Eurasian affairs
(D) Facilitating the expansion of NATO

44. Consider the following statements regarding the impact of globalization on the state:
I. It has completely erased state sovereignty.
II. It led to the emergence of global civil society.
III. It alters the state's capacity to control cross-border capital flows.
IV. It forces states to adapt domestic policies to international market pressures.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) II, III, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) I, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

45. Which of the following is an incorrect statement about globalization's impact on culture?
(A) It inevitably leads to absolute cultural homogenization everywhere.
(B) It facilitates cultural hybridization.
(C) It increases global interconnectedness and media consumption.
(D) It can provoke cultural protectionism and nationalism.

46. Match List I with List II.
List I: Dimension of Globalization
P. Economic Globalization
Q. Political Globalization
R. Cultural Globalization
S. Technological Globalization
List II: Key Feature
1. Rise of global governance institutions
2. Spread of the internet and telecommunications
3. Expansion of multinational corporations
4. Diffusion of global consumer brands
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

47. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Economic globalization reduces economic disparities within all countries uniformly.
Statement II: Anti-globalization movements often critique the unequal distribution of globalization's benefits.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

48. Consider the following global institutions and their roles in globalization:
I. WTO regulates international trade rules.
II. IMF focuses on international monetary stability.
III. World Bank provides financing for long-term development.
IV. The ICJ acts as the central bank for global capital.
V. WIPO regulates intellectual property globally.

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15. Which of the following is a correct pair regarding UN organs and their functions?
(A) Secretariat - Carries out the day-to-day administrative work
(B) General Assembly - Issues binding economic sanctions
(C) Trusteeship Council - Resolves current border disputes
(D) ICJ - Prosecutes individual war criminals

16. Match List I with List II.
List I: UN Body
P. ICJ
Q. UNESCO
R. FAO
S. IAEA
List II: Headquarters
1. Paris
2. Rome
3. The Hague
4. Vienna
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1

17. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of the G4 nations' objective?
(A) Forming a military alliance against terrorism
(B) Securing permanent seats in the UN Security Council
(C) Establishing a global free trade zone
(D) Creating a parallel organization to the UN

18. Consider the following statements about the UN Secretary-General:
I. The Secretary-General is appointed by the General Assembly.
II. The appointment is made upon the recommendation of the Security Council.
III. The Secretary-General can veto Security Council resolutions.
IV. The Secretary-General brings matters threatening peace to the Security Council.
V. The term of office is typically five years, renewable.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, IV, and V
(B) I, III, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, II, III, and IV

19. If a state systematically violates human rights during an internal conflict, which UN doctrine is most applicable to justify international intervention?
(A) Non-Aligned Movement Principles
(B) Collective Defense
(C) Responsibility to Protect (R2P)
(D) Mutually Assured Destruction

20. Arrange the following UN climate conferences in chronological order:
I. Kyoto Protocol adoption
II. Paris Agreement adoption
III. Rio Earth Summit
IV. Copenhagen Accord
(A) III, I, IV, II
(B) I, III, II, IV
(C) III, IV, I, II
(D) I, II, III, IV

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21. Which of the following statements about the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is incorrect?
(A) It consists of 54 members.
(B) It is the central platform for sustainable development.
(C) It has the power to authorize military interventions.
(D) It coordinates the work of UN specialized agencies.

22. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The "Uniting for Peace" resolution allows the General Assembly to act on peace and security matters.
Reason (R): The Security Council is often paralyzed by the veto power of its permanent members.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

23. What is the term "Global Commons" refer to in international relations?
(A) Privately owned resources controlled by multinational corporations
(B) Cultural heritage sites strictly designated by

(ICC) can prosecute states for violations of international trade law.
Statement II: The ICC prosecutes individuals for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

58. Consider the following instruments of international human rights law:
I. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
II. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
III. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
IV. UN Charter
V. Geneva Conventions
Which of the above constitute the "International Bill of Human Rights"?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) I, IV, and V
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and V

59. If a coastal state wants to exploit marine resources 150 nautical miles from its baseline, under which maritime zone defined by UNCLOS does it have sovereign rights to do so?
(A) Territorial Sea
(B) Contiguous Zone
(C) Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)
(D) The High Seas

60. Arrange the following developments in international law in chronological order:
I. Peace of Westphalia
II. Kellogg-Briand Pact
III. Rome Statute of the ICC
IV. Geneva Conventions (Modern format)
(A) I, II, IV, III
(B) I, IV, II, III
(C) II, I, IV, III
(D) I, II, III, IV

61. Which UN organ is responsible for initiating studies and making recommendations for the progressive development of international law?
(A) Security Council
(B) Trusteeship Council
(C) General Assembly
(D) Secretariat

62. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are increasingly recognized as participants in global governance.
Reason (R): They possess the formal legal authority to veto UN Security Council resolutions.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

63. What is the fundamental goal of the "Sustainable Development Goals" (SDGs) introduced by the UN?
(A) To maximize global industrial output by 2030
(B) Eradicating poverty and ensuring a sustainable global future by 2030
(C) To establish a single global currency
(D) To militarize the developing nations

64. Consider the following criticisms of the World Bank and IMF:
I. Imposition of strict structural adjustment programs.
II. Voting power is skewed toward wealthy nations.
III. Complete lack of engagement with economic matters.
IV. Conditionality often harms social sector spending in developing countries.
Which of the above statements reflect actual criticisms?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

65. Which of the following is an incorrect statement regarding UN peacekeeping operations?
(A) They require the consent of the host government.
(B) Peacekeepers can use force only in self-

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82. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Global governance is not synonymous with a global government.
Reason (R): Global governance involves multiple, decentralized mechanisms, rules, and actors without a supreme hierarchical authority.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

83. The concept of "democratic deficit" in the European Union refers to:
(A) The systemic absence of free and fair elections across EU member states
(B) The perceived lack of accountability and accessibility in EU institutions
(C) The procedural inability of the EU to admit new democratic member states
(D) The formal banning of opposition parties within the European Parliament

84. Consider the following statements about regionalism vs. globalization:
I. Regionalism can act as a stepping stone to globalization.
II. Regional trade blocs sometimes create barriers to global free trade.
III. Regionalism and globalization are mutually exclusive concepts.
IV. "Open regionalism" seeks to integrate regional economies with the global market.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

85. Which of the following regional organizations does NOT have a security/military component as its primary mandate?
(A) NATO
(B) ASEAN
(C) Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)
(D) Warsaw Pact (Historical)

86. Match List I with List II.
List I: UN Reform Agenda
P. Security Council Reform
Q. Management Reform
R. Peacebuilding Architecture
S. ECOSOC Reform
List II: Focus Area
1. Improving coordination of sustainable development goals
2. Ensuring equitable geographic representation
3. Enhancing post-conflict institutional recovery
4. Increasing transparency and administrative efficiency
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4

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87. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Constructivists argue that international organizations shape state identities and interests through norms.
Statement II: Realists view international organizations merely as tools used by powerful states to pursue their national interests.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

88. Consider the following features of the World Trade Organization (WTO):
I. It replaced the GATT in 1995.
II. It handles trade disputes between countries.
III. It dictates national minimum wage laws.
IV. Its decisions are based on consensus.
V. It provides a forum for trade negotiations.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, IV, and V
(B) I, II, III, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

89. Read the following scenario and answer the question.
A multinational corporation dumps toxic waste into the high seas, polluting international waters. Why is this difficult to penalize under current global governance frameworks?

(C) Absolute Monarchy
(D) Unilateralism

74. Consider the following statements about globalization's impact on sovereignty:
I. It blurs the line between domestic and international politics.
II. It empowers multinational corporations to influence state policies.
III. It results in the formal legal dissolution of all nation-states.
IV. It increases the necessity for states to engage in multilateral treaties.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, III, and IV
(B) I, II, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and III

75. Which is the most appropriate reason for the creation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)?
(A) To provide loans for rebuilding post-war Europe
(B) To act as a global military defense pact
(C) To ensure the stability of the international monetary system
(D) To regulate international labor standards

76. Match List I with List II.
List I: Global Event/Concept
P. Bretton Woods System
Q. R2P
R. Kyoto Protocol
S. NPT
List II: Core Subject
1. Climate Change
2. Nuclear non-proliferation
3. Humanitarian intervention
4. International monetary management
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(C) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

77. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: International Law applies only to the conduct of states and completely ignores individuals.
Statement II: The emergence of international human rights law and international criminal law has made individuals subjects of international law.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

78. Consider the following institutions and initiatives for global development:
I. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
II. Official Development Assistance (ODA)
III. Global Environment Facility (GEF)
IV. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
V. UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
Which of the above are strictly focused on socio-economic development and environment?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, III, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, II, III, and IV

79. Under international law, if an ambassador commits a crime in the host country, what principle prevents the host state from prosecuting them in its national courts?
(A) Diplomatic immunity
(B) Extradition treaty obligations
(C) Principle of non-refoulement
(D) Universal jurisdiction

80. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the UN General Assembly.
(A) It comprises all Member States of the UN.
(B) Resolutions on internal UN budgetary matters are legally binding.
(C) It elects the non-permanent members of the Security Council.
(D) Its resolutions on international peace and security are legally binding on all states.

81. Which scholar is prominently associated with the concept of "Complex Interdependence" in the context of global governance?
(A) Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye
(B) Kenneth Waltz
(C) Hans Morgenthau
(D) John Mearsheimer

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Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

49. Which of the following best represents a negative consequence of hyper-globalization?
(A) Enhanced technological exchange
(B) Vulnerability to global financial contagion
(C) Democratization of information
(D) Expansion of diplomatic networks

50. Arrange the following economic institutions/ agreements in the chronological order of their establishment:
I. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
II. World Trade Organization (WTO)
III. Bretton Woods Conference
IV. North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
(A) III, I, IV, II
(B) I, III, II, IV
(C) III, I, II, IV
(D) I, II, III, IV

51. Which theoretical perspective views international law as primarily a reflection of the interests of powerful states?
(A) Realism
(B) Liberalism
(C) Constructivism
(D) Cosmopolitanism

52. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): International Law lacks a centralized global executive to enforce its rules.
Reason (R): International Law relies heavily on state consent, reciprocity, and self-help for compliance.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

53. What is the primary source of international law according to Article 38(1) of the ICJ Statute?
(A) UN General Assembly resolutions
(B) International treaties and conventions
(C) Domestic legislation of superpower states
(D) Declarations by NGOs

54. Consider the following statements about customary international law:
I. It requires widespread and consistent state practice.
II. It requires opinio juris (belief that the practice is legally binding).
III. It must be codified in a written UN treaty to be valid.
IV. It binds all states unless they are persistent objectors.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) I, II, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

55. Which of the following pairs concerning international law jurisdictions is incorrect?
(A) Universal Jurisdiction - Can be invoked for piracy and war crimes
(B) Territorial Jurisdiction - Based on where the crime occurred
(C) Exclusive Economic Zone - Grants absolute sovereignty over high seas
(D) Nationality Jurisdiction - Based on the nationality of the offender

56. Match List I with List II.
List I: International Legal Principle
P. Pacta sunt servanda
Q. Jus cogens
R. Opinio juris
S. Terra nullius
List II: Meaning
1. Peremptory norm from which no derogation is permitted
2. Land belonging to no one
3. Agreements must be kept
4. Sense of legal obligation
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

57. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The International Criminal Court

(A) The high seas are owned by the UN, which grants immunity to corporations.
(B) International law struggles with enforcement in areas outside national jurisdiction.
(C) Corporations are explicitly exempt from all international environmental treaties.
(D) Dumping waste in the high seas is explicitly permitted by UNCLOS.

90. Identify the correct statement regarding "Global Civil Society."
(A) It refers exclusively to intergovernmental organizations like the UN.
(B) It comprises NGOs, transnational networks, and citizen groups acting across borders.
(C) It is a branch of the World Bank that deals with civil infrastructure.
(D) It replaces the need for national governments in democratic states.

91. Which principle of international law allows a state to claim jurisdiction over a crime committed abroad by a foreigner against its own national?
(A) Territoriality principle
(B) Active personality principle
(C) Passive personality principle
(D) Universality principle

92. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The United Nations frequently faces financial crises.
Reason (R): The UN relies on assessed and voluntary contributions from member states, which are often paid late or withheld.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

93. What is the primary function of the International Court of Justice (ICJ)?
(A) To try individuals accused of crimes against humanity
(B) To settle legal disputes submitted by member states and give advisory opinions
(C) To draft new treaties for international environmental law
(D) To enforce trade sanctions on violating states

94. Consider the following statements about the African Union's structure:
I. It includes a Peace and Security Council.
II. It aims to establish an African Central Bank.
III. It completely prohibits intervention in member states under any circumstances.
IV. The Pan-African Parliament is one of its organs.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

95. Which of the following is an incorrect pair?
(A) Kyoto Protocol - Greenhouse gas emissions reduction
(B) Montreal Protocol - Protection of the ozone layer
(C) Paris Agreement - Elimination of all nuclear weapons
(D) CITES - Protection of endangered species of flora and fauna

96. Match List I with List II.
List I: Theory of IR
P. Realism
Q. Institutional Liberalism
R. Marxism
S. Constructivism
List II: View on International Organizations
1. IOs serve the interests of the global capitalist class.
2. IOs help mitigate anarchy and facilitate cooperation.
3. IOs are arenas for power politics.
4. IOs are agents of socialization and norm creation.
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(D) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2

97. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The "Coffee Club" or "Uniting for Consensus" group strongly supports the expansion of permanent seats in the UN Security

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(A) I, II, and IV
(B) II, III, and IV
(C) I, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and III

115. Identify the incorrect statement regarding International Humanitarian Law (IHL).
(A) It regulates the rules for declaring war (Jus ad bellum).
(B) It applies only during armed conflict.
(C) It seeks to limit the effects of armed conflict.
(D) The Geneva Conventions form its core.

116. Match List I with List II.
List I: Global Initiative/Agenda
P. Agenda 21
Q. Millennium Development Goals
R. Sustainable Development Goals
S. UN Charter
List II: Year of Adoption
1. 1945
2. 1992
3. 2000
4. 2015
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

117. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Globalization is an exclusively economic phenomenon.
Statement II: Globalization encompasses cultural, political, technological, and economic integration.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

118. Consider the following functions of international law:
I. Providing a framework for international communication.
II. Regulating the use of force.
III. Protecting human rights.
IV. Managing the global commons.
V. Designing domestic taxation systems.
Which of the above are core functions of international law?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, II, III, and IV
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

119. If two states dispute the interpretation of a bilateral treaty, which international body is the most appropriate forum to adjudicate this dispute, assuming both have accepted its jurisdiction?
(A) The UN Human Rights Council
(B) The International Court of Justice
(C) The International Criminal Court
(D) The UN General Assembly

120. Which of the following best describes the "Tragedy of the Commons"?
(A) Over-exploitation of shared resources leading to depletion
(B) The failure of peace treaties
(C) The inability of poor countries to pay international debt
(D) The cultural assimilation of minorities

121. The "Washington Consensus" primarily promotes:
(A) Comprehensive state-led industrialization and central planning
(B) Neoliberal policies focusing on privatization and deregulation
(C) Global environmental protection and sustainable development norms
(D) The rapid proliferation of nuclear weapons and military capabilities

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122. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Regional organizations are entirely replacing the United Nations in maintaining global security.
Reason (R): Chapter VIII of the UN Charter allows regional arrangements to completely bypass the Security Council for enforcement actions.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) Both A and R are false.

1. Francis Fukuyama
2. Samuel Huntington
3. Marshall McLuhan
4. Keohane and Nye

(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

107. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Customary International Law binds only those states that explicitly sign a treaty acknowledging it.
Statement II: Jus Cogens norms override any conflicting treaty provisions between states.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

108. Consider the following features of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM):
I. It was formed during the Cold War.
II. It sought to maintain independence from the US and Soviet blocs.
III. It requires members to sign a mutual defense pact.
IV. It focuses heavily on South-South cooperation.
V. It promotes global nuclear disarmament.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, IV, and V
(B) I, II, III, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

109. What is a primary geopolitical effect of the expansion of BRICS?
(A) Complete collapse of the US dollar as a reserve currency
(B) Creation of a multipolar world order challenging Western institutional dominance
(C) Immediate military conflict in the global South
(D) The dismantling of the United Nations

110. Which is the most appropriate definition of 'Global Governance'?
(A) Collaborative management of common affairs by public and private actors
(B) A centralized world state possessing absolute and supreme authority
(C) The governance of former colonies under a single global empire
(D) The mandatory and uniform application of domestic law on a global scale

111. What is the role of the UN Trusteeship Council today?
(A) It manages global environmental trust funds.
(B) It governs territories that are not self-governing.
(C) It oversees the transition of states to digital economies.
(D) It suspended its operations in 1994 after Palau's independence.

112. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The principle of 'Responsibility to Protect' (R2P) challenges the traditional Westphalian notion of absolute state sovereignty.
Reason (R): R2P asserts that sovereignty entails the responsibility to protect populations from mass atrocities, and failing this, the international community must intervene.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

113. Under UNCLOS, what is the breadth of the Territorial Sea from the baseline?
(A) 24 nautical miles
(B) 200 nautical miles
(C) 12 nautical miles
(D) 350 nautical miles

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114. Consider the following statements regarding criticisms of the UN Security Council:
I. It reflects the geopolitical realities of 1945.
II. African and Latin American nations lack permanent representation.
III. The veto power is often used to shield allies from accountability.
IV. It meets only once every five years.
Which of the above statements are correct?

(D) Secret treaties between superpowers

132. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The UN Human Rights Council frequently faces criticism for politicization.
Reason (R): Members with poor human rights records are sometimes elected to the Council.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

133. The 'Agenda for Peace' report, which outlined preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, and peacekeeping, was authored by:
(A) Trygve Lie
(B) Dag Hammarskjöld
(C) Boutros Boutros-Ghali
(D) Ban Ki-moon

134. Consider the following statements regarding the impacts of globalization on democratization:
I. It increases access to alternative sources of information.
II. It strengthens authoritarian regimes uniformly through technology.
III. It facilitates international support for democratic movements.
IV. Economic crises induced by globalization can sometimes destabilize democracies.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) II, III, and IV
(B) I, III, and IV
(C) I, II, and III
(D) I, II, and IV

135. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the UN Charter.
(A) It acts as the foundational treaty of the UN.
(B) Article 2(7) prohibits the UN from intervening in matters essentially within domestic jurisdiction.
(C) Chapter VII authorizes the use of force to maintain peace.
(D) Any member state can unilaterally veto amendments to the Charter.

136. Match List I with List II.
List I: Environmental Treaty
P. Basel Convention
Q. Ramsar Convention
R. Minamata Convention
S. Stockholm Convention
List II: Core Subject
1. Wetlands conservation
2. Transboundary movements of hazardous wastes
3. Persistent organic pollutants
4. Mercury pollution
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

137. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Sub-regional organizations are less capable of fostering economic integration than the WTO.
Statement II: Sub-regional organizations like the GCC and ECOWAS have achieved significant localized economic and security cooperation.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

138. Consider the following statements concerning the World Health Organization (WHO):
I. It is a specialized agency of the UN.
II. It played a central role in eradicating smallpox.
III. It enforces mandatory global travel bans.
IV. It declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern.
V. Its funding relies entirely on assessed contributions.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, IV, and V

139. Which international relations theory would best explain the formation of the European Union as a rational response to lower transaction costs and solve coordination problems among European states?
(A) Classical Realism

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123. The "Bandung Conference" of 1955 laid the foundation for which movement?
(A) The European Union
(B) The Non-Aligned Movement
(C) The World Trade Organization
(D) The G7

124. Consider the following statements about SAARC:
I. It was established in 1985.
II. Its secretariat is in Kathmandu.
III. It has successfully created a single currency for South Asia.
IV. Bilateral disputes often hinder its progress.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

125. Identify the incorrect pair regarding regional blocs and their member states.
(A) ASEAN - Indonesia
(B) SAARC - Afghanistan
(C) Mercosur - Mexico
(D) EU - France

126. Match List I with List II.
List I: International Organization
P. OPEC
Q. OECD
R. ASEAN
S. EFTA
List II: Primary Trade/Economic Focus
1. Petroleum export policies
2. Southeast Asian economic integration
3. Economic progress of developed nations
4. Free trade in non-EU European states
(A) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(C) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4

127. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The Paris Agreement imposes legally binding emission reduction targets universally determined by the UN.
Statement II: The Paris Agreement relies on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) voluntarily set by member states.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

128. Consider the following statements regarding the International Criminal Court (ICC):
I. It is an official organ of the UN.
II. It operates under the principle of complementarity.
III. The USA, China, and Russia are non-members.
IV. It was established by the Rome Statute.
V. It has retroactive jurisdiction for crimes committed before 2002.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) II, III, and IV
(C) II, IV, and V
(D) I, III, and V

129. What has been a major effect of the proliferation of bilateral investment treaties (BITs) on global governance?
(A) The strengthening of host state sovereignty over foreign corporations
(B) The rise of Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanisms limiting domestic regulatory power
(C) The complete eradication of poverty in developing host nations
(D) The abolition of the World Trade Organization

130. Which term refers to the global governance concept where private actors and states collaborate to govern specific issues (e.g., ICANN, Global Fund)?
(A) Absolute Sovereignty
(B) Hegemonic Stability
(C) Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) / Networked Governance
(D) Unilateral Dictate

131. The concept of "Soft Law" in international law refers to:
(A) Laws that are easily enforced by military action
(B) Non-legally binding instruments that nonetheless influence state behavior
(C) Laws applicable only to developing nations

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II. Increased migration and cross-border movement.
III. Total elimination of global inequality.
IV. Enhanced cultural exchange.
V. Spread of global health crises.

Which of the above statements accurately reflect the impacts of globalization?
(A) I, II, IV, and V
(B) I, II, III, and IV
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

149. Read the following scenario and answer the question.
A state relies heavily on external food supplies and global trade networks. During a global pandemic, border closures lead to severe food shortages in the state. This vulnerability best illustrates which concept?
(A) Autarky
(B) Complex Interdependence
(C) Collective Security
(D) Democratic Deficit

150. Which UN body was suspended in 1994, having successfully fulfilled its mandate?
(A) Security Council
(B) Trusteeship Council
(C) Economic and Social Council
(D) International Court of Justice

151. What does the term "Glocalization" mean?
(A) The adaptation of globally marketed products or ideas to local markets and cultures
(B) The complete eradication of local cultures by global ones
(C) The process of isolating national economies
(D) The failure of global environmental treaties

152. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The World Trade Organization (WTO) has a more robust dispute settlement mechanism compared to the GATT.
Reason (R): WTO decisions can only be blocked by a consensus against the ruling, making enforcement highly probable.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

153. Which regional organization adopted the "Maastricht Treaty"?
(A) African Union
(B) European Union
(C) ASEAN
(D) Mercosur

154. Consider the following global governance forums:
I. G20
II. G7
III. World Economic Forum (WEF)
IV. United Nations General Assembly

Which of the above are informal governance mechanisms (without a founding treaty)?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) I, II, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

155. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the UN Secretariat.
(A) It is the principal administrative organ of the UN.
(B) Secretariat staff take an oath not to seek or receive instructions from any government.
(C) The Secretary-General holds ultimate veto power over the General Assembly.
(D) It compiles statistics and organizes international conferences.

156. Match List I with List II.
List I: International Law Doctrine
P. State Immunity
Q. Diplomatic Protection
R. Principle of Proportionality
S. Uti Possidetis

List II: Description
1. Boundaries remain as they were at the time of independence.
2. A state's right to protect its nationals abroad.
3. A state cannot be sued in the courts of another state.
4. Use of force must be proportionate to the objective.

(A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4

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(B) Neoliberal Institutionalism
(C) Marxism
(D) Post-colonialism

140. Which statement is the most appropriate regarding the 'Democratic Peace Theory' and international organizations?
(A) IOs composed of democracies are more likely to establish stable peaceful relations.
(B) IOs prevent democratic states from trading.
(C) IOs actively overthrow democratic governments.
(D) Democracies never join international organizations.

141. The United Nations was officially established in which year?
(A) 1919
(B) 1941
(C) 1945
(D) 1950

142. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The IMF's Special Drawing Right (SDR) is an international reserve asset.
Reason (R): The SDR completely replaced the US Dollar as the global currency.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

143. The "Common but Differentiated Responsibilities" (CBDR) principle relates primarily to:
(A) Nuclear weapons proliferation
(B) Global environmental governance and climate change
(C) Regulation of international cyberspace
(D) International criminal justice

144. Consider the following statements regarding international courts:
I. ICJ jurisdiction is based on the consent of states.
II. The ICC acts independently of the UN System, though they cooperate.
III. The Permanent Court of Arbitration is a UN organ.
IV. Decisions of the ICJ are binding on the parties involved.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

145. Identify the incorrect pair regarding regional integration stages:
(A) Free Trade Area - Elimination of internal tariffs
(B) Common Market - Free movement of capital and labor
(C) Customs Union - Common external tariff
(D) Economic Union - Abolition of all national governments

146. Match List I with List II.
List I: Global South Organization
P. G-77
Q. BRICS
R. IBSA
S. OPEC
List II: Core Focus
1. Major emerging economies dialogue
2. Trilateral dialogue between India, Brazil, South Africa
3. Developing nations' coalition at the UN
4. Oil production coordination
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

147. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Global governance implies the decline of the state as the sole actor in international relations.
Statement II: Multinational corporations and NGOs have zero influence in shaping international laws.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

148. Consider the following impacts of globalization:
I. Creation of global production networks.

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(D) I, II, and III

165. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
(A) It has 54 members elected by the General Assembly.
(B) It coordinates the economic and social fields of the UN.
(C) It can impose binding economic sanctions on member states.
(D) It grants consultative status to non-governmental organizations.

166. Match List I with List II.
List I: Global Challenge
P. Nuclear Proliferation
Q. Climate Change
R. Trade Disputes
S. Public Health Pandemics
List II: Relevant Governance Mechanism
1. WTO
2. IAEA
3. WHO
4. UNFCCC
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

167. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The "Security Dilemma" explains why states might increase their military power, causing others to do the same, even if neither wants war.
Statement II: International Organizations can help mitigate the security dilemma by providing transparency and forums for negotiation.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

168. Consider the following statements about regionalism in the Global South:
I. Organizations like SAARC face significant geopolitical hurdles.
II. The African Union emphasizes 'non-indifference' over 'non-interference'.
III. ASEAN relies heavily on legalistic and formal binding mechanisms.
IV. Sub-regional organizations have emerged due to the slow progress of broader regional groups.
V. Mercosur has struggled with economic volatility of its members.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, IV, and V
(B) I, II, III, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

169. What has been a significant effect of the internet and digital communications on global governance?
(A) Decreased awareness of international human rights abuses
(B) The emergence of transnational advocacy networks capable of mobilizing global campaigns quickly
(C) The strengthening of absolute state control over all information
(D) The decline of English as an international language

170. Which of the following is most appropriate regarding the 'Responsibility to Protect' (R2P) doctrine?
(A) It applies to all domestic crimes and civil unrest.
(B) It focuses strictly on genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity.
(C) It is a binding treaty ratified by all UN members.
(D) It permits unilateral military action without UN Security Council approval.

171. The legal concept 'Jus in bello' refers to:
(A) The right to declare war
(B) The law that governs the way in which warfare is conducted
(C) The post-war peace settlement process
(D) The prosecution of economic crimes

172. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The global governance of cyberspace remains fragmented.
Reason (R): States disagree fundamentally on issues of sovereignty, free speech, and cybersecurity in the digital realm.

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(C) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

157. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Developing countries often argue that the current global economic governance system is structurally biased against them.
Statement II: The New International Economic Order (NIEO) was a set of proposals by developing countries to restructure the global economy.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

158. Consider the following statements regarding peace and security concepts:
I. Collective Security – An attack on one is an attack on all.
II. Collective Defense – Regional alliances aimed at external threats.
III. Pre-emptive Strike – Using force before an imminent attack occurs.
IV. Appeasement – Strengthening military buildup to deter enemies.
V. Deterrence – Making the cost of attacking outweigh the benefits.
Which of the above concepts are correctly defined?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

159. Why is the Antarctic Treaty considered a unique achievement in governing global commons?
(A) It successfully demilitarized a continent and preserved it for scientific research.
(B) It distributed the continent into sovereign territories based on military power.
(C) It allowed absolute freedom for commercial resource extraction.
(D) It established the first global nuclear test site.

160. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of "Constructive Engagement" in the context of International Organizations?
(A) Imposing total isolation through comprehensive economic sanctions
(B) Maintaining ties to encourage state reform
(C) Conducting precision military strikes to destabilize a regime
(D) Providing covert tactical funding to local resistance movements

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161. The "Dublin Regulation" is a key policy framework for which regional organization regarding asylum seekers?
(A) ASEAN
(B) European Union
(C) SAARC
(D) African Union

162. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): International Law relies heavily on the principle of 'pacta sunt servanda'.
Reason (R): Without the binding nature of agreements, the international legal framework would collapse due to the lack of a global police force.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

163. The primary mandate of the UNHCR is to:
(A) Protect and assist refugees globally
(B) Oversee international human rights treaties
(C) Provide loans to developing nations
(D) Prosecute war criminals

164. Consider the following statements regarding criticisms leveled against the impact of economic globalization:
I. It leads to job displacement in traditional industries.
II. It increases income inequality within nations.
III. It completely eradicates extreme poverty uniformly.
IV. It marginalizes indigenous cultures.
Which of the above statements reflect these criticisms?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, III, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV

Council.

Statement II: The G4 nations advocate for the expansion of both permanent and non-permanent seats in the UNSC.

Which of the above statements are correct?

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

98. Consider the following statements regarding challenges to the democratization of international organizations:

I. Dominance of powerful states in decision-making bodies.
II. Lack of transparency in diplomatic negotiations.
III. Absence of direct representation of citizens.
IV. Excessive decentralization of global power.
V. The veto power system.

Which of the above statements reflect true challenges?

(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

99. The "Spillover effect" is a core concept of which theory of regional integration?

(A) Neorealism
(B) Neofunctionalism
(C) Intergovernmentalism
(D) Social Constructivism

100. Identify the most appropriate reason why international law is often described as a 'weak' legal system.

(A) It lacks a written body of treaties.
(B) There is no compulsory jurisdiction or central enforcement agency.
(C) States never comply with its rules.
(D) It only applies to European nations.

101. Which UN agency was explicitly created to assist developing countries in industrialization?

(A) UNESCO
(B) UNICEF
(C) UNIDO
(D) UNHCR

102. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).

Assertion (A): Globalization has led to a perceived 'race to the bottom' in labor and environmental standards.

Reason (R): States sometimes lower regulatory standards to attract foreign direct investment and remain globally competitive.

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

103. In international law, what is the meaning of 'non-refoulement'?

(A) The right of states to deny asylum seekers
(B) The prohibition of returning refugees to a country where they face serious threats
(C) The immunity of diplomatic bags from search
(D) The process of resolving maritime boundary disputes

104. Consider the following UN specialized agencies:

I. International Labour Organization
II. International Monetary Fund
III. World Health Organization
IV. Amnesty International

Which of the above are official UN specialized agencies?

(A) I, II, and III
(B) I, III, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

105. Which of the following is incorrectly paired regarding UN peace operations?

(A) ONUC - Congo
(B) UNPROFOR - Yugoslavia
(C) UNAMIR - Rwanda
(D) UNMOGIP - Vietnam

106. Match List I with List II.

List I: Global Governance Concept

P. Global Village
Q. Complex Interdependence
R. End of History
S. Clash of Civilizations

List II: Associated Scholar/Origin

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(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

173. What is the main objective of the International Development Association (IDA), a part of the World Bank Group?
(A) To provide military financing
(B) To provide zero- to low-interest loans and grants to the world's poorest countries
(C) To manage global exchange rates
(D) To regulate international shipping routes

174. Consider the following statements concerning the sources of International Law:
I. Judicial decisions are considered a primary source of international law.
II. General principles of law recognized by civilized nations are a primary source.
III. Treaties create binding obligations for signatories.
IV. Resolutions of the UN General Assembly are automatically binding laws.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) II and III
(B) I and IV
(C) I, II, and III
(D) II, III, and IV

175. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the G20.
(A) It was formed in 1999 primarily in response to financial crises.
(B) It includes both developed and emerging economies.
(C) It has a permanent secretariat headquartered in Geneva.
(D) Its presidency rotates annually among its members.

176. Match List I with List II.
List I: Term
P. Global South
Q. Bretton Woods
R. Multilateralism
S. Hegemony
List II: Relevance to Global Governance
1. Dominance of a single state
2. Post-WWII economic system
3. Alliance of three or more states
4. Developing and less developed nations
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(B) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(C) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

177. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The veto power in the UN Security Council was originally intended to ensure unity among the great powers.
Statement II: The veto power has frequently been cited as the primary reason for the UN's inability to prevent conflicts.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

178. Consider the following regarding the impact of globalization on the Global South:
I. Increased integration into global supply chains.
II. Enhanced technology transfer.
III. Complete immunity from global financial shocks.
IV. Concerns over neocolonialism through economic dependence.
V. Rapid but unequal economic growth.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, IV, and V
(B) I, III, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, II, III, and IV

179. Read the following scenario and answer the question.
A small island developing state (SIDS) is facing existential threats due to sea-level rise caused by global greenhouse gas emissions. Which international legal principle is the state most likely to invoke to demand compensation from major emitters?
(A) The Precautionary Principle
(B) Polluter Pays Principle
(C) Uti Possidetis
(D) Terra Nullius

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R. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
S. International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

List II: Headquarters
1. Nairobi
2. Geneva
3. London
4. Montreal

(A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

247. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The International Criminal Court (ICC) has universal jurisdiction over all crimes committed globally.
Statement II: The ICC only has jurisdiction over crimes committed by nationals of state parties or on the territory of state parties, unless referred by the UN Security Council.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

248. Consider the following statements regarding the impact of globalization:
I. It has increased global interconnectedness.
II. It has led to the proliferation of global governance mechanisms.
III. It has completely eliminated the necessity of the nation-state.
IV. It has spurred both integration and localized backlash (nationalism).
V. It has facilitated the rapid spread of global health crises.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, IV, and V
(B) I, II, III, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

249. What is a critical consequence of the "veto power" held by the P5 in the UN Security Council during major geopolitical conflicts?
(A) Rapid deployment of UN peacekeepers to the conflict zone
(B) Institutional paralysis, preventing the Council from passing binding resolutions
(C) Immediate financial sanctions uniformly applied
(D) The automatic transfer of enforcement power to the ICJ

250. Which is the most appropriate definition of "Global Governance" in the context of the contemporary international system?
(A) Formal and informal processes managing relations among diverse actors
(B) A formal world government with a global executive, legislature, and judiciary.
(C) The unilateral imposition of international law by the most powerful state.
(D) The strict economic management of developing nations by the World Bank.

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Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In a contemporary crisis scenario involving escalating border tensions between two emerging economies, the role of International Organisations in international peace and security becomes a critical focal point of study. A consortium of member states deployed a joint multilateral mission aimed at de-escalating the immediate armed conflict while establishing a framework for long-term diplomatic dialogue. This case highlights how structural constraints within such organisations often dictate the pace and efficacy of peacebuilding efforts. The mission prioritized security apparatus stabilization but struggled to coordinate humanitarian corridors, revealing a operational dichotomy. Analysts argue that the efficacy of these bodies hinges on the convergence of major powers' strategic interests rather than institutional mandates alone. The intervention demonstrated that while International Organisations serve as essential platforms for dialogue and mediation, their capacity to enforce peace is frequently undermined by the sovereign reservations of the involved parties. Consequently, the reliance on collective security mechanisms requires continuous adaptation to address multifaceted modern conflicts.

This scenario underscores the ongoing academic debate regarding the transition from traditional peacekeeping toward multidimensional security stabilization, emphasizing the necessity of integrated diplomatic, military, and

I. Rebuilding state institutions.
II. Demobilization, Disarmament, and Reintegration (DDR) of combatants.
III. Fostering economic development.
IV. Launching preemptive military strikes on neighboring nations.
V. Promoting transitional justice.

Which of the above statements represent actual peacebuilding activities?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

189. What is a long-term geopolitical effect of the structural adjustment programs (SAPs) imposed by the IMF on developing countries?
(A) Privatization of state assets and deregulation of markets
(B) Unprecedented increase in state welfare spending
(C) The collapse of the global capitalist system
(D) Immediate adoption of communist economic models

190. Which of the following is most appropriate regarding the 'Precautionary Principle' in international environmental governance?
(A) Taking cost-effective measures despite lack of scientific certainty
(B) Environmental protection is only necessary if there is 100% scientific proof of harm.
(C) Developing states are exempt from all environmental regulations.
(D) Economic growth must always precede environmental protection.

191. In international law, the concept of 'extradition' generally requires:
(A) A bilateral or multilateral treaty
(B) Immediate military force
(C) The consent of the UN Secretary-General
(D) A ruling by the International Criminal Court

192. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The principle of 'sovereign equality' is fundamental to the UN General Assembly.
Reason (R): Every member state, regardless of size or economic power, has one vote in the General Assembly.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

193. The concept of 'Global Civil Society' includes which of the following actors?
(A) Only state governments
(B) The UN Security Council
(C) Transnational NGOs, social movements, and advocacy networks
(D) Multinational corporations exclusively

194. Consider the following statements about the World Bank:
I. It was established at the Bretton Woods Conference.
II. Its primary goal is long-term economic development and poverty reduction.
III. Voting power is proportional to a country's financial contribution.
IV. It provides short-term loans strictly to manage balance of payment crises.

Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) I, III, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

195. Identify the incorrect statement regarding global governance institutions.
(A) ILO - Tripartite structure (Governments, Employers, Workers)
(B) WTO - Most-Favored-Nation principle
(C) IMF - Resolving territorial border disputes
(D) UNEP - Global environmental agenda

196. Match List I with List II.
List I: Document/Treaty
P. UN Charter
Q. Rome Statute
R. Kyoto Protocol
S. UNCLOS
List II: Significance
1. Established the ICC
2. Governs maritime laws and the seas
3. Foundational treaty of the UN

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180. Which of the following is most appropriate to describe "Global Commons"?
(A) Resources managed by private corporations
(B) Areas and resources that do not fall under the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state
(C) Wealth distributed equally among all nations
(D) International borders managed by the UN

181. The "Concert of Europe" is historically significant for international organizations because:
(A) It was the first formal treaty banning nuclear weapons.
(B) Early mechanism for multilateral consultation and balance of power
(C) It created the first global currency.
(D) It legally abolished colonialism.

182. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The role of the state in global governance is diminishing in some areas but strengthening in others.
Reason (R): While non-state actors influence policies, the state remains the primary subject of international law and the main enforcer of regulations.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

183. Which UN conference adopted the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" in 1948?
(A) Yalta Conference
(B) San Francisco Conference
(C) The UN General Assembly meeting in Paris
(D) Bretton Woods Conference

184. Consider the following criticisms of globalization:
I. It causes a homogenization of culture, often described as 'Americanization'.
II. It empowers multinational corporations over democratic governments.
III. It perfectly equalizes global wealth.
IV. It contributes to global environmental degradation.
Which of the above statements reflect valid criticisms?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

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185. Identify the incorrect statement concerning Regional Organizations.
(A) Article 52 of the UN Charter recognizes regional arrangements.
(B) They promotes economic and political cooperation among neighboring states.
(C) They can authorize military enforcement actions without Security Council approval.
(D) The African Union is an example of a regional organization.

186. Match List I with List II.
List I: International Concept
P. Human Security
Q. Collective Security
R. Interdependence
S. Sovereignty
List II: Definition
1. Protection of individuals from chronic threats like hunger and disease
2. Mutual reliance between states
3. Security arrangement where an attack on one is an attack on all
4. Supreme authority of a state within its territory
(A) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

187. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) recognizes five states as nuclear-weapon states.
Statement II: India, Israel, and Pakistan have signed and ratified the NPT.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

188. Consider the following statements regarding UN peacebuilding activities:

(B) I, II, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

205. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the "Global South".
(A) It generally refers to developing and least developed countries.
(B) It advocates for greater equity in global governance.
(C) Organizations like the G-77 represent its interests in the UN.
(D) It is a purely geographical term meaning countries strictly south of the equator.

206. Match List I with List II.
List I: International Event
P. Westphalian Treaties (1648)
Q. Congress of Vienna (1815)
R. Treaty of Versailles (1919)
S. UN Charter (1945)
List II: Significance
1. Established the League of Nations
2. Established the concept of state sovereignty
3. Created a system of collective security
4. Established the Concert of Europe
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

207. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Transnational Corporations (TNCs) are subjects of international law with the same legal personality as states.
Statement II: TNCs exert significant influence on global governance through economic power and lobbying.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

208. Consider the following issues categorized under "Global Commons":
I. The deep seabed
II. The atmosphere
III. National sovereign airspace
IV. Antarctica
V. The Amazon Rainforest
Which of the above are strictly defined as Global Commons in international law?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, III, and IV
(C) II, III, and V
(D) I, II, IV, and V

209. What is the primary effect of the proliferation of regional trade agreements (RTAs) on the multilateral trading system (WTO)?
(A) It simplifies the global trading system into a single rulebook.
(B) It completely eliminates the need for the WTO.
(C) It creates a "spaghetti bowl" effect of overlapping and complex trade rules.
(D) It immediately equalizes tariffs across all nations globally.

210. Which is the most appropriate description of "Regime Theory" in international relations?
(A) The study of principles, norms, rules, and decision-making procedures around which actor expectations converge.
(B) The study of authoritarian governments.
(C) The analysis of military regimes during the Cold War.
(D) The belief that international organizations are irrelevant.

211. Which organization functions as a forum to coordinate economic policies among major developed democracies?
(A) G-77
(B) G7
(C) OECD
(D) BRICS

212. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Globalization has facilitated the rise of global terrorist networks.
Reason (R): Improved transportation, communication, and financial flows allow non-state actors to operate transnationally.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

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229. What is a major effect of the proliferation of non-state actors (like NGOs and TNCs) on global governance?
(A) A shift from traditional state-centric governance to networked and multi-stakeholder governance
(B) The immediate dissolution of the United Nations
(C) The complete elimination of state sovereignty
(D) A reduction in global connectivity

230. Which is the most appropriate description of the concept of "Peacebuilding"?
(A) The use of armed force to mandate a ceasefire
(B) Temporary monitoring of a truce line
(C) Long-term efforts to address root causes and rebuild institutions
(D) Diplomatic negotiations before a conflict starts

231. The term "Global North" generally refers to:
(A) Countries located strictly in the Northern Hemisphere physically
(B) Economically developed and industrialized nations
(C) The group of Non-Aligned countries
(D) Nations with predominantly agricultural economies

232. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The UN faces immense challenges in reforming its Security Council.
Reason (R): Any amendment to the UN Charter requires ratification by two-thirds of member states, including all five permanent members of the Security Council.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

233. Which international organization manages the "Dispute Settlement Body" (DSB)?
(A) International Court of Justice
(B) World Trade Organization
(C) World Bank
(D) UN Security Council

234. Consider the following impacts of globalization on the environment:
I. Increased carbon emissions due to global transport.
II. Exploitation of natural resources in developing nations by TNCs.
III. Complete reversal of climate change globally.
IV. Facilitation of international environmental agreements.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

235. Identify the incorrect statement concerning "Jus Cogens".
(A) States can voluntarily opt-out of jus cogens norms via bilateral treaties.
(B) It is a peremptory norm of general international law.
(C) No derogation from it is permitted.
(D) A treaty conflicting with a jus cogens norm is void.

236. Match List I with List II.
List I: Global Actor
P. Amnesty International
Q. United Nations
R. Apple Inc.
S. Al-Qaeda
List II: Type of Actor
1. Intergovernmental Organization (IGO)
2. Transnational Corporation (TNC)
3. Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)
4. Violent Non-State Actor (VNSA)
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

237. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Global governance implies a strict hierarchical structure identical to a national government.
Statement II: Global governance relies on complex networks of rules, norms, and institutions to manage global issues.

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type of state.

221. The "Bilateral Investment Treaties" (BITs) primarily serve to:
(A) Protect foreign direct investment and provide dispute resolution mechanisms.
(B) Establish regional military alliances.
(C) Regulate global internet traffic.
(D) Facilitate cultural exchange programs.

222. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The legitimacy of global governance institutions is often questioned.
Reason (R): These institutions frequently suffer from a democratic deficit and lack direct accountability to citizens.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

223. What is the core mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)?
(A) To provide military security to environmental activists
(B) To serve as the authoritative advocate for the global environment
(C) To manage global fisheries commercially
(D) To regulate international civil aviation

224. Consider the following challenges to International Law:
I. Lack of centralized enforcement.
II. State sovereignty hindering compliance.
III. Ambiguity in the interpretation of customary norms.
IV. Complete irrelevance in international trade.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) I, III, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

225. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the UN Security Council.
(A) It has 15 members in total.
(B) Non-permanent members are elected for two-year terms.
(C) The Presidency of the Security Council rotates monthly.
(D) Decisions on substantive matters require the affirmative vote of all 15 members.

226. Match List I with List II.
List I: Global Conference
P. Rio Conference (1992)
Q. Beijing Conference (1995)
R. Copenhagen Conference (1995)
S. Rome Conference (1998)
List II: Core Theme
1. Women's Rights
2. International Criminal Court
3. Environment and Development
4. Social Development
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

227. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Cultural globalization involves the spread of ideas, meanings, and values across the world.
Statement II: Cultural globalization always results in the complete eradication of local traditions.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

228. Consider the following regarding the African Union (AU):
I. It succeeded the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in 2002.
II. It includes all 55 countries on the African continent.
III. It strictly adheres to the principle of complete non-interference.
IV. Agenda 2063 is its strategic framework for development.
V. It operates an African Standby Force.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, IV, and V
(B) I, III, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, II, III, and V

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4. First binding treaty on greenhouse gases
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

197. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: The global commons are immune to environmental degradation because they are heavily regulated by a world government.
Statement II: The global commons suffer from degradation due to the lack of an overarching enforcement authority.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

198. Consider the following proposals regarding the democratization of the UN system:
I. Establishing a UN Parliamentary Assembly.
II. Enhancing NGO participation in ECOSOC.
III. Giving the veto power to all 193 member states.
IV. Reforming the Security Council to reflect contemporary geopolitical realities.
V. Increasing transparency in the selection of the Secretary-General.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, IV, and V
(B) I, II, III, and IV
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

199. If a developing nation struggles with sudden capital flight and balance of payment issues due to a global economic shock, which international institution is fundamentally designed to provide short-term stabilization loans?
(A) International Court of Justice
(B) World Bank
(C) International Monetary Fund
(D) World Trade Organization

200. Which of the following is most appropriate regarding the 'Functionalism' in international relations?
(A) Theory that technical cooperation leads to broader political integration
(B) Theory that global government can be achieved through immediate political unification.
(C) The belief that wars are functional for maintaining population balance.
(D) The concept that states must function autonomously without international treaties.

201. The "Responsibility to Protect" (R2P) was officially endorsed by the UN General Assembly in which year?
(A) 1945
(B) 2005
(C) 1990
(D) 2015

202. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Customary international law is binding on all states, even those that have not formally codified it.
Reason (R): It is derived from widespread and consistent state practice accompanied by opinio juris.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

203. Which concept defines the economic policies of the IMF and World Bank that demand fiscal discipline, tax reform, and privatization from borrowing countries?
(A) Import Substitution Industrialization
(B) Keynesian Economics
(C) Washington Consensus
(D) Dependency Theory

204. Consider the following statements regarding the International Court of Justice (ICJ):
I. It comprises 15 judges.
II. Judges are elected by the General Assembly and Security Council.
III. Its decisions are enforceable by the UN Police Force directly.
IV. It issues advisory opinions on legal questions at the request of UN organs.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and III

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Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

238. Consider the following UN initiatives promoting democratization:
I. Electoral assistance and monitoring.
II. Support for civil society organizations.
III. Promoting independent judiciaries and rule of law.
IV. Mandating single-party communist systems globally.
V. Protecting freedom of the press.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

239. Read the following scenario and answer the question.
A coalition of states wishes to establish a legally binding treaty to ban lethal autonomous weapons. Where would this treaty legally derive its enforcement power once ratified?
(A) The UN General Assembly resolutions
(B) The domestic legal systems of the ratifying states and the treaty's internal mechanisms
(C) The International Monetary Fund
(D) Transnational Corporations

240. Which is the most appropriate description of "Sub-regional Organizations"?
(A) Groups composed of all countries within a massive continent
(B) Smaller groups of states within a broader region formed for specific localized cooperation
(C) Informal groups of non-state actors globally
(D) Branches of the UN Secretariat

241. The principle of 'Uti Possidetis Juris' in international law primarily concerns:
(A) The protection of refugees
(B) The preservation of territorial boundaries as they existed at the moment of independence
(C) The regulation of international trade tariffs
(D) The management of the global commons

242. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Globalization has led to the strengthening of regional organizations.
Reason (R): States form regional blocs to enhance their bargaining power and protect their economies from global market volatility.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

243. The "Millennium Development Goals" (MDGs) were targeted to be achieved by which year?
(A) 2000
(B) 2010
(C) 2015
(D) 2030

244. Consider the following statements about International Law and Sovereignty:
I. International law fundamentally restricts absolute state sovereignty.
II. State consent is a primary basis for international legal obligations.
III. Sovereignty means states are completely immune to international law.
IV. The concept of sovereignty has evolved due to international human rights law.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

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245. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the UN specialized agencies.
(A) They are autonomous organizations linked to the UN through cooperative agreements.
(B) The World Bank and IMF are considered UN specialized agencies.
(C) They report directly to the UN Security Council for all operational decisions.
(D) ECOSOC coordinates their activities.

246. Match List I with List II.
List I: Global Institution
P. World Trade Organization (WTO)
Q. International Maritime Organization (IMO)

213. The concept of "Common Heritage of Mankind" was notably applied in the drafting of:
(A) The Geneva Conventions
(B) The Paris Climate Agreement
(C) The UN Charter
(D) The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)

214. Consider the following functions of the International Labour Organization (ILO):
I. Setting international labor standards.
II. Promoting decent work for all.
III. Adjudicating border disputes between nations.
IV. Protecting workers' rights globally.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

215. Identify the incorrect statement concerning "Soft Power" in the context of international organizations.
(A) It involves coercion and military threats.
(B) IOs often rely on soft power like norm-setting and persuasion.
(C) It relies on the attractiveness of ideas and values.
(D) UNESCO promotes soft power through cultural exchange.

216. Match List I with List II.
List I: Theory
P. Neoliberalism
Q. Neorealism
R. Constructivism
S. Marxism
List II: Core Idea regarding IOs
1. IOs are tools for capitalist hegemony.
2. IOs reduce transaction costs and facilitate cooperation.
3. IOs reflect the distribution of power and serve dominant states.
4. IOs shape state identities and international norms.
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(C) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

217. Given below are two statements.
Statement I: Multilateralism refers to the coordination of relations among three or more states according to certain principles.
Statement II: Unilateralism is a core principle heavily promoted by the United Nations.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

218. Consider the following statements about the UN Development Programme (UNDP):
I. It publishes the Human Development Report.
II. It introduced the Human Development Index (HDI).
III. It acts as a global military enforcement agency.
IV. It focuses on poverty eradication and reducing inequalities.
V. It is funded by mandatory assessed contributions only.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, IV, and V

219. Read the following scenario and answer the question.
If a developing nation struggles with sudden capital flight and balance of payment issues due to a global economic shock, which international institution is fundamentally designed to provide short-term stabilization loans?
(A) International Court of Justice
(B) World Bank
(C) International Monetary Fund
(D) World Trade Organization

220. Which of the following is most appropriate regarding the 'Democratic Peace Theory'?
(A) Authoritarian states are more peaceful than democracies.
(B) International organizations force democracies to go to war.
(C) Democracies rarely, if ever, fight wars against other democracies.
(D) Democracies never fight wars against any

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humanitarian responses.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

251. What is identified as a primary determinant of the efficacy of International Organisations in peacebuilding?
(A) The rigid enforcement of their institutional mandates
(B) The convergence of major powers' strategic interests
(C) The implementation of diverse funding mechanisms
(D) The development of sustainable local infrastructure

252. What operational dichotomy did the multilateral mission experience during its deployment?
(A) Prioritizing security stabilization versus humanitarian coordination
(B) Balancing direct military force against long-term economic sanctions
(C) Merging diplomatic dialogue with rapid democratic electoral cycles
(D) Enforcing local laws while observing international trade treaties

253. What frequently undermines the capacity of International Organisations to enforce peace?
(A) The lack of advanced multilateral military technology
(B) The absence of robust domestic democratic institutions
(C) The sovereign reservations of the involved parties
(D) The continuous adaptation of global governance models

254. The scenario highlights an ongoing academic debate regarding a necessary transition toward:
(A) Unilateral military intervention strategies
(B) Global market-based regulatory frameworks
(C) Completely decentralized humanitarian aid
(D) Multidimensional security stabilization

255. According to the passage, collective security mechanisms require continuous adaptation to:
(A) Promote rapid and non-consensual democratization models
(B) Enforce rigid and short-term economic development models
(C) Address multifaceted and complex modern conflicts
(D) Bypass sovereign political boundaries and borders entirely

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In a post-conflict nation attempting to reconstruct its civic infrastructure, the involvement of International Organisations in development cooperation and democratisation presents a complex case of global intervention. A specialized international agency initiated a comprehensive democratization program to facilitate the nation's first multiparty elections. The program integrated development cooperation by linking financial aid directly to the successful implementation of democratic reforms and the establishment of independent judicial bodies. However, this conditionality approach faced significant local resistance, as domestic political actors perceived the mandated electoral frameworks as culturally misaligned impositions. The scenario illustrates the intricate challenge International Organisations face when balancing universal democratic norms with localized political realities. Furthermore, while the developmental assistance stabilized the immediate economic crisis, the structural focus on rapid democratization often marginalized grassroots consensus-building. Academics observing this intervention noted that development cooperation must inherently support civic education and institutional capacity before mandating rapid electoral cycles. Ultimately, this case exemplifies the dual mandate of modern International Organisations, which increasingly view sustainable economic development and robust democratic governance as interdependent processes requiring nuanced, long-term operational strategies rather than rigid, short-term conditionality models.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

256. How did the international agency attempt to integrate development cooperation into the post-conflict nation?
(A) By establishing expansive regional trade blocs
(B) By directly linking financial aid to democratic reforms

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(C) By enforcing strict military stabilization protocols
(D) By promoting a fully market-based regulatory framework

257. Why did the conditionality approach encounter significant local resistance?
(A) It inadvertently caused an immediate and severe economic crisis
(B) It explicitly neglected the creation of independent judicial bodies
(C) It focused too exclusively on grassroots consensus-building
(D) It was heavily perceived as a culturally misaligned imposition

258. What did academics observe regarding the structural focus on rapid democratization?
(A) It often marginalized crucial grassroots consensus-building
(B) It permanently stabilized the nation's long-term economic outlook
(C) It aligned perfectly with pre-existing universal democratic norms
(D) It instantly resolved complex localized political realities

259. What sequencing approach is recommended for development cooperation according to academic observers?
(A) Mandating rapid electoral cycles before delivering vital economic aid
(B) Establishing international trade agreements prior to reforming judicial bodies
(C) Supporting civic education and institutional capacity before electoral cycles
(D) Prioritizing cultural alignment at the expense of democratic governance

260. Modern International Organisations increasingly view sustainable economic development and democratic governance as:
(A) Interdependent processes requiring nuanced strategies
(B) Mutually exclusive and independent operational objectives
(C) Rigid and inflexible short-term conditionality models
(D) Universal frameworks that disregard local political realities

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The United Nations' role and relevance are frequently tested during complex humanitarian crises that span multiple sovereign borders. In a recent scenario involving cross-border refugee flows driven by rapid environmental degradation, the United Nations attempted to mobilize a coordinated global response. Despite its unique position as a universal forum, the organization's relevance was scrutinized due to bureaucratic delays and overlapping mandates among its internal agencies. The intervention was initially paralyzed by debates over which specific charter provisions authorized immediate, non-military humanitarian intervention without explicit host-state consent. This situation highlights a fundamental paradox: the United Nations remains the only globally recognized entity capable of legitimizing international collective action, yet its operational mechanisms are often too slow to address rapidly unfolding crises effectively. Scholars argue that the organization's continued relevance is tethered to its normative power rather than its executive efficiency. By establishing universal guidelines for refugee protection, the United Nations shaped the ultimate international response, even if its direct logistical role was limited. This case emphasizes that evaluating the role of the United Nations requires acknowledging its dual function as both a standard-setting normative arena and an operational actor facing significant logistical constraints.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

261. Why was the relevance of the United Nations heavily scrutinized during the refugee crisis?
(A) Due to its failure to authorize a joint multilateral military mission
(B) Due to its absolute inability to establish any universal protection guidelines
(C) Due to its overreliance on decentralized market-based regulatory systems
(D) Due to bureaucratic delays and overlapping internal agency mandates

262. What initial debate severely paralyzed the United Nations' humanitarian intervention?
(A) Debates over long-term funding mechanisms

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for international refugee camps
(B) Debates regarding charter provisions for intervention without host-state consent
(C) Debates about establishing a common regional economic integration market
(D) Debates focusing purely on historical common but differentiated responsibilities

263. What fundamental paradox concerning the United Nations is highlighted by the scenario?
(A) It possesses supreme normative power but lacks international diplomatic recognition
(B) It heavily enforces legal judgments but cannot set broad, universal humanitarian guidelines
(C) It uniquely legitimizes collective action but its operational mechanisms are very slow
(D) It inherently prioritizes localized stability over comprehensive global governance models

264. According to scholars, the United Nations' continued relevance is primarily tethered to its:
(A) Flawless executive and administrative efficiency
(B) Comprehensive direct logistical and military role
(C) Rapid and unconstrained unilateral intervention capabilities
(D) Unique and globally recognized normative power

265. How did the United Nations shape the ultimate international response despite its logistical constraints?
(A) By establishing comprehensive universal guidelines for refugee protection
(B) By quickly deploying robust multidimensional security stabilization forces
(C) By imposing immediate, crippling economic sanctions on non-compliant member states
(D) By thoroughly restructuring its principal executive decision-making organs

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A recent high-level diplomatic summit focused explicitly on the necessity of United Nations reforms, particularly concerning its principal decision-making organ. The scenario revolved around a coalition of emerging economies demanding a more equitable distribution of veto powers and expanded permanent representation to reflect contemporary global power dynamics. The debate underscored the systemic gridlock that often paralyzes international dispute resolution when the interests of existing privileged members clash. Proponents of structural reform argued that the current architecture, established in a completely different historical context, lacks the democratic legitimacy required to govern modern international relations effectively. Conversely, skeptics warned that aggressively expanding decision-making authority could dilute operational efficiency, making consensus nearly impossible to achieve during acute global crises. This case study of institutional inertia highlights how reform efforts are frequently blocked by the very mechanisms they seek to alter. The summit concluded with incremental administrative adjustments rather than comprehensive structural overhaul, illustrating the profound difficulty of achieving transformative United Nations reforms. The discourse confirms that while the demand for institutional modernization is virtually universal, the political pathways to implement changes that alter foundational power balances remain intensely contested and exceedingly narrow.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

266. What foundational reform did the coalition of emerging economies primarily demand?
(A) The immediate creation of a localized sub-regional dispute resolution mechanism
(B) A more equitable distribution of veto powers and expanded permanent representation
(C) The global implementation of strict and legally binding environmental protection treaties
(D) The total removal of all binding decision-making authority from the Security Council

267. What was the central argument presented by the skeptics of comprehensive structural reform?
(A) The currently existing architecture already possesses flawless democratic legitimacy
(B) Expanding decision-making authority could drastically dilute operational efficiency
(C) Proposed reforms would inevitably increase systemic gridlock in routine trade disputes

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299. What ultimate action forced the upstream state to finally comply with the tribunal's legal judgment?

(A) The application of normative peer pressure originating strictly from independent judicial bodies

(B) A broader coalition of surrounding states threatening harsh, collective economic sanctions

(C) The sudden implementation of anticipatory policy-making by the local regional organisation

(D) The immediate, forcible intervention of a heavily armed joint multilateral military mission

300. The case deeply demonstrates that the success of international law as an instrument of global governance relies heavily upon:

(A) Collective enforcement and political leverage

(B) Unilateral and isolated environmental safeguards

(C) Abstract principle formation without application

(D) The total rejection of domestic state sovereignty

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273. What specific factor permitted significant free-riding by major economic powers during the negotiations?
(A) The implementation of robust and legally binding international commitments
(B) The adoption of a comprehensive and holistic global governance approach
(C) The success of fragmented and decentralized bilateral trade agreements
(D) The absence of a supranational enforcement authority

274. According to the scenario, governing the global commons effectively requires a crucial transition from:
(A) Voluntary compliance models to robust, legally binding commitments
(B) Legally binding commitments to informal voluntary compliance
(C) Supranational enforcement directly to fragmented bilateral agreements
(D) Long-term ecological sustainability strictly to immediate economic imperatives

275. How did industrialized nations argue that global atmospheric emissions should be primarily managed?
(A) Through strict historical resource exploitation mandates
(B) Through immediate voluntary environmental moratoria
(C) Through a flexible market-based regulatory framework
(D) Through intensely focused sub-regional technocratic agreements

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The sudden expansion of deep-sea mineral extraction technologies has introduced severe challenges of global governance regarding uncharted domains. In a scenario where multinational corporations, backed by their host governments, initiated extensive unregulated mining in international waters, the limits of current global governance frameworks were starkly exposed. The core challenge emerged from the ambiguity of existing treaties, which provided broad principles but lacked specific operational regulations or dispute-resolution mechanisms for rapid technological advancements. A newly formed global governance committee attempted to impose an immediate moratorium, but faced outright defiance from states prioritizing strategic resource acquisition over environmental preservation. This case underlines the severe challenges of global governance when regulatory frameworks significantly lag behind technological and commercial capabilities. It demonstrates how the exploitation of the global commons frequently becomes a race characterized by regulatory arbitrage, where actors exploit jurisdictional voids. Academics studying this conflict assert that effective global governance of the commons requires anticipatory policy-making rather than reactive mediation. The inability to establish immediate, binding oversight in this deep-sea scenario illustrates the systemic weakness of global governance models relying primarily on voluntary state cooperation and normative peer pressure.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

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276. What was identified as the core global governance challenge regarding deep-sea mineral extraction?
(A) The ambiguity of treaties lacking specific regulations
(B) The total absence of multinational corporate interest
(C) The lack of host government backing for mining activity
(D) The success of the global governance oversight committee

277. How did defiant states prioritize their national interests when faced with an immediate mining moratorium?
(A) They actively prioritized anticipatory policy-making over aggressive commercial capabilities
(B) They submissively prioritized normative peer pressure over deep-sea mineral extraction
(C) They collaboratively prioritized voluntary state cooperation over rampant regulatory arbitrage
(D) They forcefully prioritized strategic resource acquisition over environmental preservation

278. The passage describes the competitive exploitation of the global commons as a race primarily characterized by:
(A) Proactive and unanimous multilateral environmental cooperation
(B) Regulatory arbitrage exploiting jurisdictional voids
(C) Robust and legally binding international oversight models
(D) Deliberate and effective reactive mediation mechanisms

279. What do academics assert is strictly necessary for the effective global governance of the commons?
(A) Relying predominantly on reactive and delayed mediation
(B) Depending exclusively on voluntary sovereign state cooperation
(C) Engaging in forward-looking anticipatory policy-making
(D) Maintaining highly ambiguous and broad treaty principles

280. The inability to establish immediate oversight illustrates the systemic weakness of governance models that rely primarily on:
(A) Forward-looking anticipatory policy-making structures
(B) Strict and robust legally binding international commitments
(C) Advanced and rapid technological and commercial capabilities
(D) Voluntary state cooperation and normative peer pressure

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In an effort to mitigate cross-border economic volatility, a coalition of neighboring states formed a robust regional organisation dedicated to establishing a common economic market and a unified security protocol. This case study demonstrates how regional organisations function as critical intermediate structures between individual state sovereignty and overarching global governance. By harmonizing trade policies and standardizing border regulations, the regional organisation successfully insulated its member states from sudden global supply chain disruptions. However, the scenario also highlighted inherent internal tensions, particularly when larger member states inadvertently dominated the policy-making agenda, leading to accusations of regional hegemony. Despite these internal disparities, the regional bloc managed to mediate a longstanding territorial dispute between two of its members, utilizing shared economic incentives as a catalyst for political resolution. This underscores the capacity of regional organisations to address localized conflicts more effectively than broader international bodies, owing to their deeper cultural understanding and immediate geographic stakes. The formation and operation of this bloc suggest that regional organisations are indispensable components of the modern international system, providing localized stability, enhancing collective bargaining power on the global stage, and promoting deeper integration.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

281. What was the primary objective of the robust regional organisation formed by the neighboring states?
(A) To establish a comprehensive common economic market and a unified security protocol
(B) To establish an international tribunal dedicated to adjudicating severe pollution disputes
(C) To aggressively manage unregulated deep-sea mineral extraction in uncharted domains
(D) To implement a fully decentralized global market-based environmental regulatory framework

282. How did the regional bloc successfully insulate its member states from global supply chain disruptions?
(A) By completely and permanently withdrawing from all international financial capital markets
(B) By thoroughly standardizing border regulations and successfully harmonizing trade policies
(C) By voluntarily transferring all internal dispute-resolution mechanisms to the United Nations
(D) By aggressively exploiting unregulated jurisdictional voids located in international

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waters

283. What specific factor caused notable internal tensions within the newly formed regional organisation?
(A) The complete inability to insulate smaller members from global economic volatility
(B) The inadvertent domination of the policy-making agenda by larger member states
(C) The catastrophic failure to mediate historical and longstanding territorial disputes
(D) The absolute lack of any shared economic incentives among the participating members

284. The regional bloc managed to successfully mediate a longstanding territorial dispute primarily by utilizing:
(A) The utilization of shared economic incentives
(B) The application of normative global peer pressure
(C) The deployment of a massive supranational military force
(D) The enforcement of fragmented and isolated bilateral agreements

285. Why can regional organisations sometimes address localized conflicts more effectively than broader international bodies?
(A) They possess absolute, unquestioned sovereign authority over all member states
(B) They rely exclusively on slow, reactive mediation strategies during intense crises
(C) They benefit immensely from deeper cultural understanding and immediate geographic stakes
(D) They operate entirely outside the established parameters of the modern international system

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A specialized sub-regional organisation was recently activated to address severe logistical bottlenecks along a critical multinational river basin shared by three developing economies. Unlike broader regional blocs, this sub-regional organisation operated with a highly focused mandate limited specifically to resource management and infrastructure development. The scenario involved negotiating a joint hydroelectric project that required the harmonization of localized environmental regulations and shared funding mechanisms. The effectiveness of this sub-regional entity lay in its micro-level focus, allowing member states to bypass the complex, highly politicized agendas typical of larger diplomatic forums. By compartmentalizing the issue, the sub-regional organisation fostered a technocratic rather than a purely political dialogue. Nevertheless, the case revealed that such hyper-focused entities often suffer from severe funding constraints and lack the broader institutional weight necessary to enforce compliance if a member state unilaterally withdraws from the technical agreements. Scholars analyzing this development conclude that sub-regional organisations serve as vital micro-diplomatic tools that facilitate deep technical integration and localized problem-solving. They act as essential building blocks for wider regional stability, even as their operational scope and enforcement capabilities remain inherently restricted.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

286. What was the specific, highly focused mandate of the activated sub-regional organisation?
(A) Standardizing border security regulations across the globe
(B) Adjudicating complex transboundary pollution disputes
(C) Establishing frameworks for rapid democratic elections
(D) Resource management and infrastructure development

287. The operational effectiveness of the sub-regional entity was primarily attributed to its:
(A) Unprecedented ability to heavily enforce legally binding international commitments
(B) Broad institutional weight that spanned seamlessly across multiple continents
(C) Micro-level focus that allowed states to bypass highly politicized overarching agendas
(D) Significant, continuous, and highly unconstrained international funding mechanisms

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288. By intentionally compartmentalizing the operational issue, the sub-regional organisation fostered a dialogue that was:
(A) Entirely and directly controlled by overseeing global diplomatic superpowers
(B) Strictly technocratic rather than engaging in a purely political dialogue
(C) Inherently reactive rather than emphasizing proactive and anticipatory planning
(D) Broadly philosophical rather than focusing on concrete operational execution

289. What is identified as a severe systemic vulnerability of such hyper-focused sub-regional entities?
(A) Creating intensely overlapping mandates with numerous other specialized agencies
(B) Inadvertent domination by overarching frameworks of global environmental governance
(C) A fundamental inability to foster any meaningful level of technical integration
(D) Severe funding constraints alongside a profound lack of enforcement capabilities

290. Scholars analyzing this scenario conclude that sub-regional organisations serve as essential building blocks for:
(A) Promoting wider regional stability
(B) Developing a global enforcement authority
(C) Precipitating systemic economic downturns
(D) Forcing democratization in emerging economies

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A sudden systemic shock in the global financial markets provided a profound case study on the complex impact of globalisation on domestic sovereignty and economic stability. When a major asset bubble burst in one hemisphere, the hyper-connected nature of international trade and capital flows instantly transmitted the crisis to distant, emerging markets. This scenario illustrates how the impact of globalisation drastically limits the capacity of individual states to insulate their domestic economies from external shocks. While the integration of markets had previously accelerated economic growth and technological transfer, it simultaneously created a fragile interdependence. Governments attempting to implement independent monetary policies found their interventions neutralized by rapid, cross-border capital flights dictated by algorithmic trading. The crisis revealed that the impact of globalisation is inherently dual-natured: it magnifies collective prosperity during periods of stability but universalizes vulnerability during systemic downturns. Academics interpret this event as proof that globalisation fundamentally alters the traditional concept of state control, necessitating coordinated, multilateral policy responses rather than isolated domestic strategies. This case confirms that managing the impact of globalisation requires robust international regulatory frameworks capable of stabilizing the vast, interconnected networks of modern global exchange.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

291. According to the scenario, what does the hyper-connected nature of globalisation drastically limit?
(A) The cross-border flow of international financial capital
(B) The integration and expansion of global trade markets
(C) The insulation of domestic economies from shocks
(D) The technological transfer between emerging markets

292. What directly neutralized the independent monetary policies attempted by sovereign governments during the crisis?
(A) Algorithmic cross-border capital flights
(B) Centralized regional security interventions
(C) Regulatory frameworks for resource extraction
(D) Normative power applied by the United Nations

293. The passage describes the impact of globalisation as dual-natured primarily because it:
(A) Promotes economic isolation while expanding military alliances
(B) Accelerates technological transfer while reversing democratization
(C) Strengthens domestic sovereignty while weakening organizations
(D) Universalizes vulnerability during systemic

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downturns

294. Academics interpret the global financial crisis as definitive proof that globalisation fundamentally alters:
(A) The foundational mandates concerning historical global resource exploitation
(B) The traditional concept of absolute and independent domestic state control
(C) The specific micro-diplomatic tools utilized heavily by sub-regional groups
(D) The overarching necessity for establishing universal collective security mechanisms

295. According to the passage, effectively managing the complex impact of modern globalisation strictly requires:
(A) Reverting entirely to highly isolated and independent domestic monetary strategies
(B) Implementing a vast array of completely fragmented and isolated bilateral agreements
(C) Developing robust international regulatory frameworks to stabilize interconnected networks
(D) Transitioning permanently to intensely localized and purely technocratic policy dialogues

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

An international tribunal recently adjudicated a complex transboundary pollution dispute, providing a definitive case on the efficacy of international law as an instrument of global governance. The conflict arose when industrial runoff from an upstream state severely compromised the agricultural output of a downstream neighbor. Utilizing established conventions on transboundary harm, the tribunal issued a binding resolution requiring the upstream state to implement immediate environmental safeguards and provide economic compensation. This scenario highlights how international law functions as a critical regulatory mechanism, transforming abstract principles of global governance into actionable, enforceable obligations. However, the upstream state initially delayed compliance, citing domestic economic sovereignty, which exposed the fundamental reliance of international law on the political will of sovereign states for enforcement. The resolution was ultimately achieved only when a broader coalition of states threatened collective economic sanctions, effectively backing the legal judgment with diplomatic pressure. This case demonstrates that while international law is a vital instrument for codifying norms and resolving disputes peacefully, its success as an instrument of global governance is inextricably linked to the collective enforcement capacity and coordinated political leverage of the international community.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

296. What was the specific nature of the conflict adjudicated by the international tribunal in the case study?
(A) A border dispute regarding deep-sea mineral extraction rights
(B) A systemic shock originating in global financial trade markets
(C) A disagreement over the distribution of UN Security Council vetoes
(D) A transboundary pollution dispute affecting agricultural output

297. How did the tribunal's binding resolution demonstrate the core function of international law?
(A) By creating actionable, enforceable obligations
(B) By relying on informal voluntary cooperation
(C) By bypassing state authority to sanction industry
(D) By establishing new global regulatory frameworks

298. What primary reason did the upstream state initially cite in order to severely delay compliance with the resolution?
(A) The complete lack of established international conventions strictly regarding transboundary harm
(B) The absolute primacy of its own domestic economic sovereignty and internal governance
(C) The perceived lack of sustained diplomatic pressure directly from the downstream state
(D) The lengthy and crippling bureaucratic delays inherent in the international tribunal itself

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(D) Minor incremental administrative adjustments are entirely unnecessary for modern governance

268. What core reality does the institutional inertia described in the passage illustrate?
(A) Comprehensive reform efforts are frequently blocked by the very mechanisms they seek to alter
(B) Structural reform efforts are enthusiastically facilitated by all existing privileged members
(C) Universal political consensus is readily and consistently achievable during acute global crises
(D) Transformative modern reforms intrinsically require only minor administrative adjustments

269. How did the high-level diplomatic summit regarding institutional reforms ultimately conclude?
(A) With a comprehensive and transformative structural overhaul
(B) With the immediate, unilateral abolition of all veto powers
(C) With only minor, incremental administrative adjustments
(D) With a binding global governance treaty on climate change

270. The passage suggests that the political pathways to implement changes altering foundational power balances are:
(A) Exceptionally broad, transparent, and universally supported
(B) Entirely unnecessary for the governance of modern international relations
(C) Determined solely by the collective will of emerging economies
(D) Intensely contested and exceedingly narrow in their application

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

An unprecedented multilateral negotiation was recently convened to address the management of the global commons, focusing specifically on atmospheric preservation and international maritime zones. The case highlighted the foundational issues of global governance when sovereign entities exploit shared resources that lack defined territorial jurisdictions. Industrialized nations argued for a market-based regulatory framework to manage atmospheric emissions, while developing states advocated for the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, emphasizing historical resource exploitation. This scenario vividly illustrates the tragedy of the commons on a global scale, where individual state interests inherently conflict with the necessity of collective preservation. Global governance mechanisms struggled to enforce binding limits, as the absence of a supranational enforcement authority allowed significant free-riding by major economic powers. The negotiations revealed that governing the global commons requires transitioning from voluntary compliance models to robust, legally binding international commitments. Furthermore, the complexities of this case demonstrate that issues of the global commons cannot be resolved through fragmented bilateral agreements; they demand an inclusive, holistic global governance approach that harmonizes immediate economic imperatives with long-term ecological sustainability, bridging the deep systemic divides between the global north and south.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

271. The multilateral negotiation on the management of the global commons focused primarily on which domains?
(A) Deep-sea mineral extraction and land-based intensive agriculture
(B) Global intellectual property rights and foreign direct investments
(C) Atmospheric preservation and international maritime zones
(D) Cross-border refugee migration flows and democratisation processes

272. On what guiding principle did developing states base their advocacy during the negotiations?
(A) Unregulated market-based regulatory frameworks
(B) The concept of common but differentiated responsibilities
(C) The rapid deployment of unilateral economic sanctions
(D) The absolute and unyielding doctrine of territorial sovereignty

ANSWERS

1. (B) Action taken to prevent disputes from arising or escalating into conflicts
Preventive diplomacy is a diplomatic strategy used by international organizations to resolve disputes before they escalate into armed conflict. It involves measures like early warning systems, fact-finding missions, and mediation. By addressing tensions at an early stage, it aims to maintain international peace and security without the necessity of military intervention or post-conflict reconstruction efforts to restore global stability.

2. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
International organizations promote global democratization through both direct and indirect methods. They frequently incorporate democratic reform requirements as prerequisites for membership or financial aid. This conditionality incentivizes states to adopt democratic norms and institutional frameworks. Consequently, these organizations serve as external catalysts for political change, using economic and political leverage to foster democratic transitions and consolidate governance across nations.

3. (C) They mandate the complete dissolution of national sovereignty for aid.
International organizations facilitate global development by transferring financial resources, providing technical expertise, and setting collective agendas like the Sustainable Development Goals. However, these organizations do not require the complete dissolution of national sovereignty in exchange for aid. While they may impose certain conditions or policy reforms, states maintain their legal status as sovereign entities within the international system throughout the process.

4. (D) I, III, and IV
International organizations contribute to global peace by providing structured forums for diplomatic negotiations and imposing economic sanctions to deter aggressive state behavior. They also play a vital role in post-conflict peacebuilding to prevent the recurrence of violence. However, standard peacekeeping operations typically require the consent of the host state, distinguishing them from enforcement actions that might bypass such sovereign permission.

5. (C) World Health Organization - Military alliances
International organizations are established with specific mandates. The United Nations Security Council focuses on maintaining peace, the World Bank targets long-term economic development, and the UNDP works toward eradicating poverty. In contrast, the World Health Organization is a specialized agency dedicated to international public health and global disease management, rather than the formation or maintenance of military or security alliances.

6. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Peacemaking involves diplomatic actions to bring hostile parties to an agreement. Peacekeeping refers to the deployment of forces with consent to monitor ceasefires and maintain security. Peacebuilding focuses on supporting structures that strengthen peace after a conflict. Finally, peace enforcement entails the use of armed force to mandate peace when parties fail to comply, often without requiring the parties' consent.

7. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
While some international interventions involve military force, democratization is primarily promoted through non-coercive means. International organizations utilize peaceful tools such as election monitoring, civic education programs, and technical assistance to strengthen democratic institutions. These methods aim to foster internal political stability and encourage democratic participation without relying solely on coercive military measures, which are generally considered a last resort in international relations.

8. (A) I, III, IV, and V
Global governance involves a complex network of state and non-state actors working together to address transboundary challenges. It

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25. (D) Cyberspace - Kyoto Protocol
International treaties are designed to manage specific global domains. Antarctica is governed by the Antarctic Treaty System, the high seas by UNCLOS, and outer space by the Outer Space Treaty. However, the Kyoto Protocol is specifically focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions to combat climate change. It does not provide a regulatory framework for cyberspace, which remains a complex and evolving area.

26. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Global commons issues are addressed through specific international frameworks and concepts. Ozone depletion is regulated by the Montreal Protocol, while climate change is managed under the UNFCCC. The high seas are governed by the principle of freedom of navigation, ensuring open access for all nations. Space exploration is often guided by the concept of the Common Heritage of Mankind, which emphasizes sharing.

27. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
The concept of the "Common Heritage of Mankind" suggests that certain resources should be managed for the benefit of all humanity, rather than being exploited solely by technologically advanced nations. This principle is explicitly incorporated into the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, particularly regarding the regulation of deep seabed mining. It aims to ensure that international resources shared equitably.

28. (A) I, II, III, and IV
Several major treaties have been established to manage the physical domains of the global commons. These include the Antarctic Treaty, which preserves the continent for science, and the Outer Space Treaty and Moon Agreement, which regulate extraterrestrial activities. The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea provides a comprehensive legal framework for the world's oceans. Disarmament treaties focus on weapons.

29. (C) The decentralized nature and involvement of major private actors
Regulating cyberspace is particularly challenging due to its inherently decentralized structure and the significant role played by private actors. Unlike physical global commons, digital infrastructure is often owned and operated by corporations rather than governments. This complexity, combined with the rapid pace of technological change and differing national laws, makes it difficult to establish a single, overarching international regulatory framework for internet.

30. (A) I, III, II, IV
The governance of outer space began with the launch of Sputnik 1 in 1957, which triggered the need for international rules. This led to the establishment of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in 1959. The foundational Outer Space Treaty was subsequently adopted in 1967. Much later, the Artemis Accords were introduced in 2020 to guide lunar exploration.

31. (D) National Airspace
Global commons are areas that fall outside the sovereign jurisdiction of any single state. Traditional examples include the high seas, the atmosphere, and outer space, as these are considered shared resources. In contrast, national airspace is strictly under the sovereign control of the state located directly beneath it. International law recognizes the right of states to regulate and control access to territorial airspace.

32. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Effective management of the global environment necessitates multilateral cooperation because environmental problems are inherently transboundary. Pollution, deforestation, and climate change do not respect national borders and affect multiple states simultaneously. Therefore, individual state actions are often insufficient to address these challenges. Collective agreements and international frameworks are required to coordinate responses and implement sustainable policies that protect shared resources and ecosystems.

33. (B) Tragedy of the Commons
The tragedy of the commons is an economic theory describing a situation where individuals, acting independently and rationally according to their own self-interest, deplete a shared resource. This occurs even when it is clear that it is not in anyone's long-term interest for the resource to be exhausted. It highlights the conflict between

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Vienna, where it monitors nuclear activities and promotes peaceful energy.

17. (B) Securing permanent seats in the UN Security Council
The G4 nations, comprising Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan, act as a support group for each other's bids for permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council. Their primary objective is to reform the Council's structure to better reflect the current global political landscape. They argue that an expanded permanent membership would enhance the Council's legitimacy and representativeness in modern times.

18. (A) I, II, IV, and V
The UN Secretary-General is the chief administrative officer, appointed by the General Assembly upon the Security Council's recommendation. They typically serve a renewable five-year term and have the authority to bring threats to international peace to the Council's attention. While they hold significant diplomatic influence and manage the Secretariat's operations, they do not possess the power to veto Security Council resolutions.

19. (C) Responsibility to Protect (R2P)
The Responsibility to Protect doctrine establishes that sovereignty entails a responsibility to protect populations from mass atrocities. If a state fails to protect its citizens or is the perpetrator of systematic human rights violations, the international community has the obligation to intervene. This framework provides a legal and ethical basis for collective international action to prevent genocide, war crimes, and cleansing.

20. (A) III, I, IV, II
Global climate governance has evolved through several key milestones. The Rio Earth Summit in 1992 established the foundation for international environmental cooperation. The Kyoto Protocol was subsequently adopted in 1997 to set binding emission targets. This was followed by the Copenhagen Accord in 2009, which provided a non-binding framework. Finally, the Paris Agreement was adopted in 2015, creating a universal plan.

21. (C) It has the power to authorize military interventions.
The Economic and Social Council serves as the primary platform for coordinating the economic and social work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. It consists of 54 members and focuses on sustainable development and international cooperation. Crucially, it does not have the authority to authorize military interventions, as that power is exclusively reserved for the Security Council under Charter.

22. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The "Uniting for Peace" resolution was established to allow the General Assembly to take action on matters of international peace and security when the Security Council is unable to act. This typically occurs when a permanent member exercises its veto power, leading to institutional paralysis. By enabling the General Assembly to make recommendations for collective measures, the resolution ensures the UN functional.

23. (D) Resource domains falling outside any single state's jurisdiction
Global commons are resource domains that lie beyond the political reach of any single nation-state. These areas are not subject to national sovereignty and are considered shared assets for all of humanity. Examples include the high seas, the atmosphere, outer space, and Antarctica. Their management requires international cooperation and treaties to prevent over-exploitation and ensure equitable access and preservation for generations.

24. (D) I, II, III, and IV
Managing global commons involves significant challenges, including the tendency for individuals to over-exploit shared resources, known as the tragedy of the commons. Furthermore, the lack of a centralized enforcement authority makes regulation difficult. These challenges are exacerbated by unequal technological capabilities among states and overlapping claims of absolute sovereignty, which complicate the establishment of effective multilateral agreements and sustainable management frameworks.

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reductions. The Non-Proliferation Treaty is the primary framework for managing global nuclear non-proliferation efforts and security.

77. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
Traditionally, international law was viewed as a system governing the conduct of states. However, the development of international human rights law and international criminal law has significantly expanded its scope. Individuals are now recognized as subjects of international law, possessing both rights that states must respect and responsibilities for which they can be held accountable, particularly in cases involving war crimes.

78. (A) I, II, III, and V
Several international institutions and initiatives are strictly focused on socio-economic development and environmental issues. These include the UNDP, which manages development projects, and the Global Environment Facility, which funds environmental protection. Official Development Assistance represents aid from developed to developing nations. UNCTAD focuses on trade and development. In contrast, NATO is a military alliance focused on collective defense and security.

79. (A) Diplomatic immunity
Diplomatic immunity is a principle of international law that ensures diplomats are not susceptible to the laws of the host country. This protection prevents the host state from prosecuting an ambassador in its national courts for crimes committed while in office. The principle is designed to facilitate open communication and functional diplomatic relations between states by shielding representatives from potential domestic legal harassment.

80. (D) Its resolutions on international peace and security are legally binding on all states.
The United Nations General Assembly is the main deliberative organ, comprising all member states. While its resolutions on internal budgetary matters are legally binding, its resolutions on international peace and security are generally considered recommendations and are not legally binding on all states. In contrast, the Security Council has the specific authority to issue binding resolutions on matters of international peace security.

81. (A) Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye
Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye are the scholars most prominently associated with the concept of "Complex Interdependence." This theory describes a world where states and their fortunes are inextricably linked through multiple channels of interaction, including economic, social, and political ties. They argue that in this environment, military force is less useful, and international organizations play a crucial role in cooperation.

82. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Global governance is distinct from a global government because it does not involve a single, supreme hierarchical authority with the power to enforce laws worldwide. Instead, it encompasses a diverse range of decentralized mechanisms, including international organizations, treaties, norms, and private actors. These elements work together to manage global affairs and solve collective problems through cooperation and consensus rather than command.

83. (B) The perceived lack of accountability and accessibility in EU institutions
The "democratic deficit" in the European Union refers to the perceived lack of democratic accountability and accessibility within its institutional framework. Critics argue that key decision-making processes are often distant from the influence of EU citizens, and that the European Parliament, while directly elected, has historically had less power compared to unelected bodies like the European Commission and the European Council.

84. (A) I, II, and IV
Regionalism and globalization are interconnected concepts in the international system. Regionalism can serve as a stepping stone toward broader global integration, although some trade blocs may create barriers to global free trade. "Open regionalism" aims to integrate regional economies into the global market. These processes are not mutually exclusive; rather, they often interact, with regional cooperation complementing broader global trends.

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individual utility and the collective good in management.

34. (B) I, II, and III
Contemporary global governance is characterized by an expanding array of actors beyond the traditional nation-state. This includes intergovernmental organizations like the United Nations, as well as non-state actors such as transnational corporations and non-governmental organizations. These entities collaborate and interact to address complex global issues, reflecting a shift toward a more networked and multi-stakeholder approach to managing international international affairs.

35. (C) ASEAN - Jakarta
Regional organizations establish secretariats in member states to coordinate their activities. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations is headquartered in Jakarta, Indonesia. Other organizations have different centers; the African Union is based in Addis Ababa, SAARC is located in Kathmandu, and the European Union's primary administrative center is in Brussels. These headquarters serve as the focal points for regional diplomacy and implementation.

36. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
Regional organizations serve various purposes based on their mandates. The European Union functions as a supranational political and economic union. NATO is primarily a collective security alliance focused on defense. SAARC facilitates regional cooperation among South Asian nations to promote economic and social progress. Mercosur operates as a trade bloc in South America, aiming to integrate the economies of its member states.

37. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
Regional organizations play a significant role in the international system and often serve as building blocks for global governance. Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter explicitly encourages the involvement of regional arrangements and agencies in the maintenance of international peace and security. It allows these organizations to address local disputes before they are referred to the Security Council, ensuring consistent activities.

38. (A) I, III, IV, and V
The European Union is a unique supranational organization with a single market that ensures the free movement of goods, people, services, and capital. It maintains a Common Foreign and Security Policy and features a directly elected European Parliament. While many members have adopted the Euro, it is not used by all member states. The organization represents deep economic and political integration.

39. (A) Mercosur
Mercosur is the primary sub-regional organization in South America dedicated to economic integration and trade. It provides a framework for resolving commercial disputes and coordinating economic policies among its member states. While other organizations like NATO are focused on security or OPEC on oil production, Mercosur is specifically equipped to handle matters related to the regional market and economic cooperation.

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40. (A) II, I, III, IV
The development of regional organizations occurred over several decades. The European Economic Community was established in 1957. ASEAN followed in 1967 to promote cooperation in Southeast Asia. SAARC was later formed in 1985 to enhance regional ties in South Asia. Finally, the African Union was established in 2002, succeeding the earlier Organization of African Unity to provide an integrated framework.

41. (A) ASEAN
ASEAN is characterized by a unique set of norms known as the "ASEAN Way." This approach emphasizes making decisions through consensus and strictly adhering to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of member states. This diplomatic style prioritizes informal consultation and quiet diplomacy over legalistic and confrontational methods, aiming to maintain regional harmony and respect for national sovereignty among members.

42. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The African Union has adopted a more proactive and interventionist stance than its predecessor, the Organization of African Unity. This shift is

codified in the AU's Constitutive Act, which explicitly allows the Union to intervene in a member state during dire circumstances, such as war crimes, genocide, or crimes against humanity. This principle represents a significant evolution in regional governance.

43. (C) Cooperation in security, anti-terrorism, and Eurasian affairs
The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is a permanent intergovernmental international organization focused primarily on regional security. Its main objectives include strengthening mutual trust and neighborliness among member states and promoting cooperation in political, trade, and economic areas. A central pillar of its mandate is the collective fight against terrorism, separatism, and extremism, as well as managing Eurasian geopolitical and security affairs.

44. (A) II, III, and IV
Globalization has transformed the role of the state by facilitating the rise of a global civil society and altering the state's ability to regulate transnational capital flows. It often requires states to adapt their domestic policies to align with international market pressures. While globalization has not completely erased state sovereignty, it has significantly constrained the autonomous decision-making power of national governments.

45. (A) It inevitably leads to absolute cultural homogenization everywhere.
Globalization impacts culture in multifaceted ways, often facilitating cultural hybridization and increasing interconnectedness through global media. It can also trigger cultural protectionism or nationalist movements as communities seek to preserve their identity. However, globalization does not lead to absolute cultural homogenization everywhere. Instead, it often results in a complex interplay between global influences and local traditions, creating diverse expressions.

46. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Globalization manifests across several dimensions with distinct features. Economic globalization is driven by the expansion of multinational corporations and global trade. Political globalization involves the rise of international governance institutions and regimes. Cultural globalization is seen in the diffusion of global consumer brands and media. Technological globalization is characterized by the rapid spread of the internet, which connects individuals and businesses.

47. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
Economic globalization does not reduce economic disparities within countries in a uniform manner; instead, it often exacerbates inequality by benefiting those with capital and skills while marginalizing others. Consequently, anti-globalization movements frequently criticize the unequal distribution of the benefits and costs associated with global integration. These movements advocate for more equitable policies and greater accountability for the institutions involved.

48. (A) I, II, III, and V
Several international institutions play critical roles in managing globalization. The WTO regulates trade rules, the IMF ensures monetary stability, and the World Bank finances long-term development. WIPO manages intellectual property rights globally. However, the International Court of Justice is a judicial body for settling disputes between states and does not function as a regulator for global capital or systems.

49. (B) Vulnerability to global financial contagion
Hyper-globalization refers to an extreme level of international economic integration. While it facilitates trade and technology exchange, a major negative consequence is the increased vulnerability of national economies to global financial contagion. In a highly interconnected system, a financial crisis in one region can rapidly spread across borders, affecting markets and stability worldwide. This interdependence makes insulation difficult for individual states.

50. (A) III, I, IV, II
The global economic architecture was built through several stages. The Bretton Woods Conference in 1944 established the IMF and World Bank. This was followed by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in 1947. Much later, the North American Free Trade Agreement was implemented in 1994. Finally, the World

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Trade Organization was established in 1995, replacing GATT and providing a framework.

51. (A) Realism
Realism is a theoretical perspective in international relations that views the world as an anarchic system where states prioritize power and national interest. From this viewpoint, international law is seen primarily as a reflection of the interests of the most powerful states. Realists argue that states only comply with legal norms when it serves their strategic goals or when coerced.

52. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
International law is characterized by the absence of a centralized global executive or police force to mandate compliance. Instead, the system relies heavily on the consent of sovereign states to be bound by rules. Compliance is often achieved through reciprocity, where states follow laws expecting others to do the same, and self-help mechanisms. This decentralized nature distinguishes international law from domestic.

53. (B) International treaties and conventions
According to Article 38(1) of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, international treaties and conventions are recognized as a primary source of international law. These formal agreements between states establish explicit rules and obligations. Other primary sources include customary international law and general principles of law. While resolutions and declarations are influential, they are generally not considered primary sources in law.

54. (B) I, II, and IV
Customary international law is established through widespread and consistent state practice over time. For a practice to become law, states must also possess opinio juris, the belief that the action is legally required. This form of law binds all states except for those that have consistently and openly objected to the rule from its inception. Unlike treaties, it does not require codification.

55. (C) Exclusive Economic Zone - Grants absolute sovereignty over high seas
International law defines various jurisdictional principles. Universal jurisdiction applies to heinous crimes like piracy, while territorial jurisdiction is based on the location of the act. Nationality jurisdiction concerns the identity of the offender. However, the Exclusive Economic Zone does not grant absolute sovereignty over the high seas. Instead, it provides coastal states with specific sovereign rights for exploring and managing natural resources.

56. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Key legal principles form the foundation of international law. Pacta sunt servanda means that agreements must be kept in good faith. Jus cogens refers to peremptory norms that cannot be violated by any state. Opinio juris is the psychological element of custom, representing a sense of legal obligation. Terra nullius is a historical term describing land that belongs to no one.

57. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
The International Criminal Court is a permanent tribunal with a specific mandate to prosecute individuals for the most serious international crimes. Its jurisdiction includes genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression. It does not have the authority to prosecute states or handle violations of international trade law, as those matters are addressed by other international bodies.

58. (A) I, II, and III
The "International Bill of Human Rights" is a foundational set of documents that define global human rights standards. it consists of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Together, these instruments provide a comprehensive framework for the protection and promotion of fundamental freedoms.

59. (C) Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)
Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Exclusive Economic Zone extends up to 200 nautical miles from a coastal state's baseline. Within this zone, the state has sovereign rights to explore, exploit, conserve, and manage natural resources, both living and non-living, in the water and on the seabed. This

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provides states with significant economic control over maritime.

60. (A) I, II, IV, III
International law has evolved through several historical milestones. The Peace of Westphalia in 1648 established the principle of state sovereignty. The Kellogg-Briand Pact of 1928 attempted to outlaw war. The modern format of the Geneva Conventions was adopted in 1949 to regulate the conduct of armed conflict. Finally, the Rome Statute established the International Criminal Court in 1998, which began operations.

61. (C) General Assembly
The United Nations General Assembly is tasked with the progressive development and codification of international law. It fulfills this responsibility by initiating studies and making recommendations to the international community. A key body assisting in this work is the International Law Commission, which prepares draft conventions on various subjects. The Assembly provides a forum for states to discuss and refine legal frameworks.

62. (C) A is true but R is false.
Non-governmental organizations are increasingly significant participants in global governance, providing expertise, advocacy, and monitoring on various international issues. They influence policy through consultation and public campaigns. However, they do not possess formal legal authority within the United Nations to veto Security Council resolutions. That power is strictly limited to the five permanent member states, as defined by the United Nations Charter.

63. (B) Eradicating poverty and ensuring a sustainable global future by 2030
The Sustainable Development Goals are a set of seventeen global objectives adopted by the United Nations. Their fundamental goal is to eradicate poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all by the year 2030. These goals provide a universal framework for addressing social, economic, and environmental challenges, promoting a sustainable future that balances human needs with the preservation of Earth's ecosystems.

64. (A) I, II, and IV
The World Bank and IMF face several criticisms regarding their operational methods and governance structures. Critics often point to the imposition of strict structural adjustment programs that can negatively affect social sector spending in developing countries. Furthermore, the voting power in these institutions is skewed toward wealthy nations, leading to a perceived lack of representativeness and concerns about global economic policy.

65. (C) They are exclusively funded by voluntary donations from private corporations.
United Nations peacekeeping operations are complex missions involving military, police, and civilian personnel working to maintain peace in conflict zones. They require the consent of the host government and generally permit the use of force only in self-defense or to protect the mandate. Importantly, these operations are funded by assessed contributions from all UN member states, rather than relying on private.

66. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
United Nations Secretaries-General are often associated with key initiatives during their terms. Boutros Boutros-Ghali authored "An Agenda for Peace," while Kofi Annan oversaw the Millennium Development Goals. Ban Ki-moon was instrumental in the adoption of the Paris Climate Agreement. António Guterres has introduced "Our Common Agenda" to address future global challenges. These initiatives reflect the evolving priorities of the international organization.

67. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
The veto power in the United Nations Security Council is held exclusively by the five permanent members: China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. A negative vote by any of these permanent members is sufficient to block the adoption of a substantive resolution, regardless of how many other members support it. This mechanism ensures that major actions require their consensus.

68. (A) I, II, III, and IV
Global governance involves addressing complex, transboundary issues that cannot be managed by a single state alone. These include

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regulating global financial markets, mitigating environmental degradation, and combating transnational terrorism. Additionally, ensuring equitable access to global commons is a major challenge. While these international issues are central, global governance does not typically extend to dictating local municipal laws, which remain under domestic jurisdiction.

69. (B) Reliance on national governments for enforcement
The effectiveness of international environmental law is significantly limited by its reliance on national governments for enforcement. While international treaties establish standards and obligations, there is no global police force to mandate compliance. Consequently, the success of these laws depends on the political will and administrative capacity of individual states to implement and monitor environmental regulations within their own sovereign territories and jurisdictions.

70. (A) II, IV, I, III
The history of international law and human rights follows a clear progression. The League of Nations was established in 1919. This was followed by the creation of the United Nations and the adoption of the UN Charter in 1945. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was subsequently adopted in 1948. Finally, the Rome Statute established the International Criminal Court in 1998 for justice.

71. (B) Peacekeeping operations
The Brahimi Report, released in 2000, was a landmark document that critically assessed United Nations peacekeeping operations. It provided comprehensive recommendations for reforming how the UN plans, manages, and executes these missions. The report emphasized the need for clear mandates, adequate resources, and improved institutional support to ensure that peacekeeping remains an effective tool for maintaining international peace and security in conflict.

72. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
In South Asia, sub-regional organizations like BIMSTEC have gained prominence as alternative mechanisms for cooperation. This trend is largely driven by the stalled progress of SAARC, which has been frequently hindered by bilateral tensions and geopolitical disputes between its major members. Consequently, states have sought new platforms that allow for more effective economic and technical collaboration, bypassing traditional regional gridlock.

73. (B) Supranationalism
Supranationalism is a political system where power and authority are shared between a central body and its member states. In this arrangement, member states voluntarily cede some of their sovereignty to the supranational institution, which can then make decisions that are binding on all members. This model is most notably exemplified by the European Union, which features institutions capable of enacting laws.

74. (B) I, II, and IV
Globalization impacts state sovereignty by blurring the lines between domestic and international politics and empowering non-state actors like multinational corporations to influence policy. It also necessitates greater participation in multilateral treaties to address shared global issues. While these factors constrain the autonomous power of states, they do not lead to the formal legal dissolution of nation-states, which remain the primary actors.

75. (C) To ensure the stability of the international monetary system
The International Monetary Fund was established at the Bretton Woods Conference in 1944. Its primary objective is to ensure the stability of the international monetary system by monitoring exchange rates and providing temporary financial assistance to member countries facing balance of payments problems. By facilitating international trade and economic growth, the IMF aims to prevent the types of competitive currency devaluations.

76. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
Global events and concepts are linked to specific subjects in international relations. The Bretton Woods System focuses on international monetary management. The Responsibility to Protect is centered on humanitarian intervention to prevent atrocities. The Kyoto Protocol is a key agreement addressing climate change through emission

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operates through international treaties, norms, and regimes rather than a centralized world government. While it respects state sovereignty, the necessity for multilateral cooperation often requires states to accept limitations on their absolute authority to effectively manage issues like climate change and global health.

9. (C) Lack of direct accountability to the global citizenry
The democratic deficit in international organizations stems from the fact that decision-making processes often lack direct accountability to the global citizenry. Decisions are typically made by appointed government representatives rather than directly elected officials. This creates a perceived gap between the policies enacted by these organizations and the democratic will of the people who are ultimately affected by those international decisions.

10. (A) I, II, III, IV
The evolution of international organizations follows a clear historical timeline. The League of Nations was established after World War I in 1919. The United Nations succeeded it in 1945 following World War II. The World Trade Organization was later created in 1995 to regulate global trade. Finally, the International Criminal Court was established in 2002 to prosecute individuals for serious international crimes.

11. (D) International Monetary Fund
Most United Nations bodies, including the General Assembly and World Health Organization, follow the principle of sovereign equality, granting each member state one vote. However, the International Monetary Fund uses a weighted voting system. In this model, voting power is determined by a country's financial contribution or quota, giving economically powerful states significantly more influence over the organization's decisions and policies.

12. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The United Nations Charter assigns the Security Council the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security. To fulfill this mandate effectively, the Charter empowers the Council to issue resolutions that are legally binding on all member states. This authority distinguishes the Security Council from other UN organs, as its decisions can mandate specific actions or sanctions to resolve global conflicts.

13. (C) Peacebuilding
Peacebuilding is a comprehensive process that takes place after a conflict to prevent its recurrence. It involves utilizing United Nations resources to reconstruct physical infrastructure, such as roads and power systems, and administrative frameworks, like judicial and police services. By addressing the underlying structural causes of violence and rebuilding state capacity, peacebuilding aims to create a sustainable foundation for long-term stability.

14. (D) I, III, and IV
Reforms of the United Nations focus on several key areas, including expanding the Security Council membership to reflect modern geopolitics and enhancing transparency in its working methods. Additionally, the organization faces ongoing challenges regarding the consistent and adequate funding from its member states. While some members advocate for changing the veto power, the permanent members do not universally support its complete abolition.

15. (A) Secretariat - Carries out the day-to-day administrative work
The United Nations Secretariat is responsible for the day-to-day administrative work of the organization, led by the Secretary-General. Other organs have distinct functions; the General Assembly makes recommendations but generally does not issue binding economic sanctions, while the International Court of Justice settles legal disputes between states rather than prosecuting individuals. Each body operates under a specific mandate defined by Charter.

16. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
Different international organizations are headquartered in various global cities to facilitate their specific mandates. The International Court of Justice is located in The Hague, while UNESCO operates from Paris. The Food and Agriculture Organization is based in Rome, focusing on global food security. Lastly, the International Atomic Energy Agency is headquartered in

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85. (B) ASEAN
Some regional organizations are established primarily as military or security alliances, such as NATO and the historical Warsaw Pact. The Collective Security Treaty Organization also has a clear security mandate. In contrast, ASEAN was founded primarily to promote economic growth, social progress, and cultural development in Southeast Asia. While it addresses security issues through dialogue, military defense is not its mandate.

86. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
The United Nations reform agenda targets several key areas to improve organizational effectiveness. Security Council reform focuses on ensuring more equitable geographic representation among its members. Management reform aims to increase administrative efficiency and transparency. The peacebuilding architecture is designed to enhance institutional recovery after conflicts. ECOSOC reform prioritizes improving the coordination and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals across agencies.

87. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
Different theoretical perspectives offer varying views on international organizations. Constructivists argue that these organizations are active agents that shape state identities and interests through the creation and promotion of international norms. Realists, conversely, view international organizations as instruments used by powerful states to further their own national interests. Both theories contribute significantly to understanding the complex role of international organizations.

88. (A) I, II, IV, and V
The World Trade Organization was established in 1995 to replace GATT as the primary body regulating international trade. It provides a forum for negotiations, handles trade disputes between member states, and generally makes decisions based on consensus. While it sets rules for international commerce, the WTO does not have the authority to dictate national domestic laws such as national minimum wages.

89. (B) International law struggles with enforcement in areas outside national jurisdiction.
Penalizing pollution in the high seas is difficult because these areas lie beyond the sovereign jurisdiction of any single nation-state. While international frameworks like UNCLOS provide rules, enforcement relies on states to regulate their own vessels and nationals. The lack of a centralized global authority with the power to directly monitor and punish private corporations in international waters creates significant gaps.

90. (B) It comprises NGOs, transnational networks, and citizen groups acting across borders.
Global civil society refers to the vast array of non-state actors operating across national borders to influence international affairs. This includes non-governmental organizations, transnational advocacy networks, citizen groups, and social movements. These actors play a vital role in global governance by raising awareness, providing expertise, and holding governments and international organizations accountable for their actions on social and environmental issues.

91. (C) Passive personality principle
The passive personality principle is a jurisdictional basis in international law that allows a state to claim jurisdiction over a crime committed abroad if the victim is one of its own nationals. This principle is often invoked in cases of terrorism or other serious crimes where a state seeks to protect its citizens and ensure justice, even when the act occurs.

92. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The United Nations frequently experiences financial crises because its budget depends entirely on contributions from member states. These include both mandatory assessed contributions and voluntary funding for specific programs. When states pay late or withhold their payments for political reasons, the organization struggles to maintain its operations. This financial precariousness limits the UN's ability to respond effectively to challenges.

93. (B) To settle legal disputes submitted by member states and give advisory opinions
The International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. Its primary

to address collective challenges in an anarchic world where no single, supreme global authority exists.

111. (D) It suspended its operations in 1994 after Palau's independence.
The Trusteeship Council was established to oversee the administration of trust territories and ensure their transition toward self-government or independence. Having successfully fulfilled its mandate, the Council suspended its operations in 1994 following the independence of Palau, the last remaining trust territory. While the body still exists as an official organ of the United Nations, it no longer meets regularly.

112. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The principle of Responsibility to Protect represents a significant shift in the understanding of international sovereignty. It challenges the traditional Westphalian notion by asserting that sovereignty is not an absolute right but carries a responsibility to protect populations from mass atrocities. If a state fails in this duty, the international community has the right and obligation to intervene collectively.

113. (C) 12 nautical miles
According to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, every coastal state has the right to establish the breadth of its territorial sea up to a limit not exceeding twelve nautical miles. This distance is measured from the baselines determined in accordance with the convention. Within this zone, the coastal state exercises full sovereignty over the water and.

114. (D) I, II, and III
The United Nations Security Council faces frequent criticism for several reasons. Many argue that its permanent membership reflects the geopolitical realities of 1945 rather than the modern world. Furthermore, major regions like Africa and Latin America lack permanent representation. The veto power is also criticized for being used to protect allies and prevent accountability. The Council actually meets frequently today.

115. (A) It regulates the rules for declaring war (Jus ad bellum).
International Humanitarian Law, also known as the law of armed conflict, focuses on limiting the effects of violence and protecting individuals who are not participating in hostilities. Its core is found in the Geneva Conventions and it applies only during armed conflict. It does not regulate the rules for declaring or entering war, which is termed jus ad bellum.

116. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Key international initiatives and foundational documents were adopted in specific years. The UN Charter was signed in 1945. Agenda 21 was adopted at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992 to promote sustainable development. The Millennium Development Goals were introduced in 2000 to address global poverty. Finally, the Sustainable Development Goals were adopted in 2015 as a more comprehensive.

117. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
Globalization is a multifaceted phenomenon that extends far beyond simple economic integration. While trade and finance are central components, the process also encompasses significant cultural, political, and technological dimensions. It involves the worldwide spread of ideas, the rise of international governance institutions, and the rapid diffusion of technology, all of which contribute to an increasingly interconnected and interdependent global society.

118. (B) I, II, III, and IV
International law serves several core functions in the global system. It provides a framework for communication between states, regulates the use of military force, and protects fundamental human rights. Additionally, it plays a vital role in managing the global commons, such as the oceans and outer space. While it influences many areas, designing domestic taxation systems remains a sovereign prerogative.

119. (B) The International Court of Justice
The International Court of Justice is the primary forum for settling legal disputes between states, including those involving the interpretation of bilateral treaties. If both states involved in the dispute have accepted the court's jurisdiction, the ICJ can issue a legally binding judgment.

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102. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalization has created intense competition among states to attract foreign direct investment. To remain globally competitive and appeal to multinational corporations, some states may lower their regulatory standards regarding labor rights and environmental protection. This phenomenon is often described as a "race to the bottom," where the pursuit of economic growth leads to a decline in social welfare.

103. (B) The prohibition of returning refugees to a country where they face serious threats
Non-refoulement is a fundamental principle of international law that prohibits the return of refugees or asylum seekers to a country where they would face a serious threat to their life or freedom. This principle is a cornerstone of international refugee protection and is codified in various treaties, ensuring that individuals are not forced back into situations of potential persecution.

104. (A) I, II, and III
The United Nations system includes various specialized agencies that are autonomous organizations working with the UN. These include the International Labour Organization, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Health Organization. While Amnesty International is a major global actor, it is a non-governmental organization and not an official part of the United Nations' network of specialized agencies or bodies.

105. (D) UNMOGIP - Vietnam
United Nations peacekeeping operations are established to monitor ceasefires and maintain security in specific regions. Historical missions include ONUC in the Congo, UNPROFOR in the former Yugoslavia, and UNAMIR in Rwanda. However, UNMOGIP is the Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan, established to monitor the ceasefire line in Kashmir. It is not associated with Vietnam's historical conflicts.

106. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Several scholars have contributed influential concepts to the study of global governance and international relations. Marshall McLuhan coined the term "Global Village" to describe a connected world. Keohane and Nye developed the theory of "Complex Interdependence." Francis Fukuyama wrote about the "End of History" regarding liberal democracy. Samuel Huntington proposed the "Clash of Civilizations" as a future framework.

107. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
Customary international law is binding on all states regardless of whether they have signed a specific treaty, as long as it reflects widespread state practice and opinio juris. In contrast, jus cogens norms are peremptory rules that represent the highest level of international law. These norms are universally binding and override any conflicting treaty provisions, as no derogation is permitted.

108. (A) I, II, IV, and V
The Non-Aligned Movement was established during the Cold War to provide states with a way to maintain independence from both the United States and the Soviet Union. It emphasizes South-South cooperation and actively promotes global nuclear disarmament. While it focuses on political and economic collaboration, the movement does not require its members to sign a mutual defense pact.

109. (B) Creation of a multipolar world order challenging Western institutional dominance
The expansion of BRICS is a significant development in contemporary international relations. Its primary geopolitical effect is the fostering of a more multipolar world order that challenges the traditional institutional and economic dominance of Western powers. By bringing together major emerging economies, BRICS seeks to provide an alternative platform for global governance and economic cooperation, reflecting a shifting balance.

110. (A) Collaborative management of common affairs by public and private actors
Global governance is the collaborative management of common global affairs through a complex network of public and private actors. It involves intergovernmental organizations, national governments, non-governmental organizations, and corporations working together within a framework of international rules, norms, and institutions. This process aims

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China, and Russia, are not members. While it cooperates with the UN, it is an independent judicial body. Its jurisdiction is not retroactive.

129. (B) The rise of Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanisms limiting domestic regulatory power
The proliferation of Bilateral Investment Treaties has significantly impacted global governance by institutionalizing Investor-State Dispute Settlement mechanisms. These mechanisms allow foreign corporations to sue host states in international tribunals if domestic policies negatively affect their investments. Critics argue that this system can limit the regulatory power of states, particularly in areas like environmental protection and public health, by creating legal risks.

130. (C) Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) / Networked Governance
Public-Private Partnerships and networked governance refer to collaborative arrangements where state and private actors work together to manage specific global issues. This approach is increasingly common in areas like health and technology, where organizations like ICANN or the Global Fund involve diverse stakeholders. These partnerships leverage the resources and expertise of both sectors to address challenges requiring broad multi-stakeholder participation.

131. (B) Non-legally binding instruments that nonetheless influence state behavior
Soft law refers to international instruments, such as resolutions, declarations, and guidelines, that are not legally binding but nonetheless influence state behavior. While states are not legally required to follow these rules, they often do so due to political pressure, norms, or the desire for international legitimacy. Soft law can serve as an important precursor to the development of formal treaties.

132. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The United Nations Human Rights Council frequently faces criticism for being politicized. This perception arises because states with poor human rights records are sometimes elected to the Council. Critics argue that this undermines the body's credibility and its ability to objectively monitor and address human rights violations. The membership of such states often leads to the shielding of political allies.

133. (C) Boutros Boutros-Ghali
"An Agenda for Peace" was a landmark report authored by UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in 1992. It outlined a comprehensive framework for the UN's role in maintaining international peace and security in the post-Cold War era. The report introduced and defined key concepts such as preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, and peacekeeping, providing a strategic vision for the organization's operations.

134. (B) I, III, and IV
Globalization impacts democratization by increasing access to information and facilitating international support for democratic movements. However, the process is not uniform, as economic crises induced by global volatility can sometimes destabilize fragile democracies. While technology can be used by authoritarian regimes for control, the overall trend of globalization has provided new tools and networks that can empower political movements.

135. (D) Any member state can unilaterally veto amendments to the Charter.
The United Nations Charter is the foundational treaty of the organization. It includes provisions such as Article 2(7), which protects domestic jurisdiction, and Chapter VII, which authorizes force to maintain peace. While the five permanent members have a veto over substantive decisions, amendments to the Charter require a complex process of two-thirds approval and ratification, rather than allowing any member.

136. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Specific international environmental treaties address various forms of pollution and conservation. The Basel Convention regulates the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes. The Ramsar Convention focuses on the conservation of wetlands. The Minamata Convention targets the reduction of mercury pollution. The Stockholm Convention aims to eliminate or restrict persistent organic pollutants. These agreements provide essential legal frameworks for environmental protection.

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Other bodies like the Human Rights Council or the International Criminal Court have different mandates and jurisdictional limits.

120. (A) Over-exploitation of shared resources leading to depletion
The "Tragedy of the Commons" refers to the over-exploitation and eventual depletion of shared resources by individuals acting in their own self-interest. This occurs in the absence of effective regulation or collective management. The concept highlights the inherent difficulty in preserving common resources, such as fisheries or the atmosphere, when individual gains from exploitation outweigh the shared costs of depletion.

121. (B) Neoliberal policies focusing on privatization and deregulation
The "Washington Consensus" refers to a set of neoliberal economic policy prescriptions promoted by the IMF and World Bank. These policies emphasize fiscal discipline, privatization of state-owned enterprises, and deregulation of markets. The goal is to encourage economic growth in developing countries by reducing state intervention and fostering a more market-oriented environment. This approach has been both influential and controversial.

122. (D) Both A and R are false.
Regional organizations do not entirely replace the United Nations in maintaining global security, and Chapter VIII of the UN Charter does not allow them to bypass the Security Council for enforcement actions. Instead, the Charter emphasizes that regional arrangements should be consistent with the UN's purposes and that the Security Council remains the primary authority for authorizing any military force.

123. (B) The Non-Aligned Movement
The Bandung Conference of 1955 was a pivotal meeting of Asian and African states, most of which were newly independent. It laid the ideological and political foundation for the Non-Aligned Movement. The conference promoted principles of national sovereignty, anti-colonialism, and neutrality during the Cold War. It aimed to provide a collective voice for the developing world and foster cooperation.

124. (A) I, II, and IV
SAARC was established in 1985 with its secretariat located in Kathmandu, Nepal. It aims to promote regional cooperation among South Asian nations in various economic and social fields. However, the organization's progress has been frequently hindered by bilateral disputes and geopolitical tensions between its members. While it facilitates dialogue and regional projects, it has not successfully established a currency.

125. (C) Mercosur - Mexico
Regional organizations are composed of states within specific geographic areas. Indonesia is a member of ASEAN, Afghanistan belongs to SAARC, and France is a key member of the European Union. However, Mercosur is a South American trade bloc, and Mexico is not a member. Instead, Mexico is part of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement in North America's trade system.

126. (A) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
Different international organizations focus on specific economic and trade areas. OPEC coordinates petroleum export policies among its members. The OECD focuses on the economic progress and policies of developed nations. ASEAN works toward economic integration in Southeast Asia. The EFTA promotes free trade among European states that are not part of the European Union. These organizations facilitate specialized international cooperation.

127. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
The Paris Agreement does not impose legally binding emission targets determined by the UN. Instead, it relies on a bottom-up approach where each state voluntarily sets its own Nationally Determined Contributions. These NDCs represent a country's individual commitment to reducing emissions and adapting to climate change. This structure aims to encourage broad participation while respecting national sovereignty and capacity.

128. (B) II, III, and IV
The International Criminal Court was established by the Rome Statute and operates on the principle of complementarity, meaning it only intervenes when national courts are unwilling or unable to act. Several major powers, including the USA,

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the abolition of national governments. States maintain sovereignty while coordinating policies.

146. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
Organizations in the Global South focus on various aspects of cooperation and dialogue. The G-77 is a large coalition of developing nations at the UN. BRICS brings together major emerging economies for high-level dialogue. IBSA is a trilateral forum for India, Brazil, and South Africa. OPEC coordinates oil production and pricing policies among its members. These groups enhance representation.

147. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
Global governance represents a shift away from a system where the state is the only actor, as intergovernmental organizations and non-state actors play increasingly important roles. However, it is incorrect to say that multinational corporations and NGOs have zero influence. These actors significantly shape international laws and norms through lobbying, advocacy, and economic power, often working alongside sovereign governments.

148. (A) I, II, IV, and V
Globalization has produced significant and widespread impacts, including the creation of global production networks and increased cross-border migration. It has also enhanced cultural exchange and facilitated the rapid spread of global health crises. While the process has led to economic growth in many areas, it has not resulted in the total elimination of global inequality, which remains a persistent challenge.

149. (B) Complex Interdependence
The scenario describes a situation where a state's welfare is vulnerable to events beyond its borders due to high levels of trade and interconnection. This best illustrates the concept of complex interdependence, where states are linked through multiple channels and are sensitive to each other's actions and global events. This vulnerability highlights the risks and mutual dependencies inherent in globalization.

150. (B) Trusteeship Council
The Trusteeship Council was one of the original main organs of the United Nations, designed to manage trust territories. After the independence of Palau in 1994, all territories under its supervision had achieved self-government or independence. Having successfully completed its primary mission as defined by the UN Charter, the Council officially suspended its operations, though it can meet again if required.

151. (A) The adaptation of globally marketed products or ideas to local markets and cultures
"Glocalization" is a term used to describe the process where global products, ideas, or brands are adapted to suit local cultures and markets. It represents a synthesis of global and local trends, allowing multinational corporations to appeal to diverse consumer preferences while maintaining a global presence. This concept highlights that globalization does not always result in uniform cultural homogenization.

152. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The World Trade Organization features a more robust dispute settlement mechanism than its predecessor, the GATT. A key reason for this strength is the "reverse consensus" rule, where a ruling by the dispute body can only be blocked if all members agree to do so. This makes it nearly impossible for a losing party to prevent the enforcement of decisions.

153. (B) European Union
The Maastricht Treaty, signed in 1992, was a landmark agreement that officially established the European Union. It represented a major step in European integration, creating the framework for a single currency, a common foreign and security policy, and cooperation in justice and home affairs. The treaty transformed the European Economic Community into a more integrated political and economic union.

154. (A) I, II, and III
Informal governance mechanisms are forums that lack a foundational treaty or a permanent legal structure. These include the G20 and G7, where leaders of major economies meet to coordinate policies, and the World Economic Forum, which brings together global elites. In contrast, the United Nations General Assembly is a formal organ of an international organization established by a legal treaty.

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137. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
While the WTO manages global trade, sub-regional organizations are often very capable of fostering economic integration at a local level. Organizations like the Gulf Cooperation Council and ECOWAS have achieved significant progress in economic and security cooperation within their respective areas. These sub-regional groups can address specific local challenges and needs more effectively than broader global or regional institutions.

138. (A) I, II, and IV
The World Health Organization is a specialized UN agency that played a critical role in smallpox eradication and managing the COVID-19 pandemic. It serves as the primary body for global health coordination. However, the WHO does not have the power to enforce mandatory international travel bans, as those remain under national jurisdiction. Additionally, its funding comes from assessed contributions.

139. (B) Neoliberal Institutionalism
Neoliberal institutionalism is an international relations theory that emphasizes the role of international organizations in facilitating cooperation. It explains the formation of the European Union as a rational response by states to lower transaction costs, solve coordination problems, and manage interdependence. By creating shared institutions and rules, states can achieve mutually beneficial outcomes and reduce the likelihood of interstate conflict.

140. (A) IOs composed of democracies are more likely to establish stable peaceful relations.
The Democratic Peace Theory suggests that democratic states are less likely to go to war with one another. International organizations composed of democracies can strengthen this effect by providing stable frameworks for cooperation and conflict resolution. By fostering shared norms, transparency, and economic ties, these organizations help create a "zone of peace" where members maintain stable and peaceful relations.

141. (C) 1945
The United Nations was officially established on October 24, 1945. It was created following World War II to replace the League of Nations and provide a more effective international organization for maintaining global peace and security. The foundational UN Charter was signed in San Francisco by 51 original member states, marking the beginning of a new era in multilateral.

142. (C) A is true but R is false.
The Special Drawing Right is an international reserve asset created by the IMF to supplement its member countries' official reserves. While the SDR serves as a unit of account and a potential source of liquidity, it has not replaced the US Dollar as the world's primary global currency. The dollar remains the dominant medium for international trade and central reserves.

143. (B) Global environmental governance and climate change
The principle of "Common but Differentiated Responsibilities" is a cornerstone of global environmental governance, particularly in climate change negotiations. It acknowledges that all states have a shared responsibility to address environmental challenges, but their specific obligations should differ based on their historical contributions to pollution and their current economic and technical capacities. This ensures that developed and developing nations cooperate.

144. (A) I, II, and IV
International courts have distinct roles and legal bases. The International Court of Justice depends on state consent and its decisions are binding on the parties involved. The International Criminal Court operates independently of the UN system, though they maintain a cooperative relationship. The Permanent Court of Arbitration is an independent intergovernmental organization and is not an official organ of the UN.

145. (D) Economic Union - Abolition of all national governments
Economic integration occurs in several stages, from free trade areas that eliminate internal tariffs to customs unions with common external tariffs. A common market allows for the free movement of labor and capital. An economic union involves further integration, such as shared monetary policies, but it does not require

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functions are to settle legal disputes submitted by member states and to provide advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized UN organs and specialized agencies. The ICJ deals exclusively with disputes between states and does not have the jurisdiction to individuals.

94. (A) I, II, and IV
The African Union features a sophisticated institutional structure that includes the Peace and Security Council and the Pan-African Parliament. It also maintains long-term goals such as the establishment of an African Central Bank to facilitate economic integration. Unlike some other regional groups, the AU's framework allows for intervention in member states during serious crises, departing from absolute non-interference.

95. (C) Paris Agreement - Elimination of all nuclear weapons
International treaties are designed to address specific global issues. The Kyoto Protocol targets greenhouse gas emissions, the Montreal Protocol protects the ozone layer, and CITES regulates the trade of endangered species. However, the Paris Agreement is focused on combating climate change and limiting global temperature increases. It does not address the elimination of nuclear weapons, which is managed under frameworks.

96. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
International relations theories provide different interpretations of international organizations. Realism views them as arenas for power politics between states. Institutional liberalism argues they help mitigate anarchy and facilitate cooperation. Marxism sees them as serving the interests of the global capitalist class. Constructivism highlights their role as agents of socialization and norm creation that can change state behavior and international culture.

97. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
The "Coffee Club," also known as Uniting for Consensus, opposes the expansion of permanent seats in the UN Security Council, advocating instead for more non-permanent seats. In contrast, the G4 nations actively lobby for an increase in both permanent and non-permanent seats to reflect modern global realities. These groups represent competing visions for the future structure and legitimacy of Council.

98. (A) I, II, III, and V
Democratizing international organizations faces several significant challenges. These include the dominance of powerful states in decision-making and the lack of transparency in diplomatic negotiations. Furthermore, the absence of direct citizen representation and the existence of the veto power system in bodies like the Security Council are often cited as major obstacles. These factors contribute to a perceived deficit.

99. (B) Neofunctionalism
The "spillover effect" is a central concept in neofunctionalist theory, explaining how integration in one economic sector creates pressures for integration in related sectors. This process suggests that technical cooperation will inevitably lead to broader political integration as states seek to manage the consequences of increased interdependence. This theory was prominently used to explain the historical development of Union.

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100. (B) There is no compulsory jurisdiction or central enforcement agency.
International law is often described as a "weak" legal system because it lacks the centralized enforcement mechanisms found in domestic law. There is no global police force to mandate compliance and no compulsory jurisdiction that requires all states to submit to a central court. Instead, the system relies on state consent and voluntary adherence, making enforcement dependent on political will.

101. (C) UNIDO
The United Nations Industrial Development Organization is a specialized agency established to promote and accelerate industrial development in developing countries and economies in transition. UNIDO works to improve living conditions and promote global prosperity by offering tailored solutions for sustainable industrial growth. It focuses on several key areas, including creating shared prosperity, advancing economic competitiveness, and safeguarding environment.

155. (C) The Secretary-General holds ultimate veto power over the General Assembly.
The UN Secretariat is the administrative heart of the organization, responsible for organizing conferences and compiling statistics. Its staff are expected to maintain international loyalty and not receive instructions from any government. However, the Secretary-General, who leads the Secretariat, does not possess veto power over the General Assembly. The Secretary-General's role is primarily administrative and diplomatic, without ultimate legislative authority.

156. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
International law includes several key doctrines that govern state relations. State immunity prevents one state from being sued in the courts of another. Diplomatic protection is the right of a state to protect its nationals abroad. The principle of proportionality requires that the use of force be limited to the objective. Uti possidetis ensures that boundaries remain as they were.

157. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
Developing countries have historically argued that the global economic system is biased toward developed nations. To address this, they proposed the New International Economic Order in the 1970s, seeking to restructure global trade and finance to be more equitable. While many of these proposals were not fully implemented, the debate continues to shape discussions on contemporary global economic governance.

158. (A) I, II, III, and V
Several concepts are fundamental to understanding international peace and security. Collective security involves a shared commitment to respond to aggression, while collective defense refers to alliances against external threats. A pre-emptive strike is force used against an imminent attack. Deterrence involves making the cost of aggression too high. Appeasement, however, refers to making concessions to avoid conflict rather than buildup.

159. (A) It successfully demilitarized a continent and preserved it for scientific research.
The Antarctic Treaty is considered a unique success in governing the global commons because it successfully demilitarized an entire continent. The treaty preserves Antarctica exclusively for peaceful and scientific purposes, banning all military activity and nuclear testing. By freezing territorial claims and promoting international scientific cooperation, the agreement has prevented geopolitical conflict and ensured the preservation of this pristine, shared environment.

160. (B) Maintaining ties to encourage state reform
Constructive engagement is a diplomatic strategy used by international organizations and states to maintain ties with a regime to encourage internal reform. Unlike isolation or sanctions, this approach relies on dialogue, economic incentives, and persuasion to influence a state's behavior on issues like human rights or democratization. It is based on the belief that engagement is more effective.

161. (B) European Union
The Dublin Regulation is a critical policy framework of the European Union that establishes the criteria for determining which member state is responsible for examining an asylum seeker's application. Its primary goal is to prevent multiple applications and ensure that one state is clearly responsible for the process. The regulation is a key component of the EU's common asylum system.

162. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The principle of pacta sunt servanda, which means that agreements must be kept in good faith, is a foundational element of international law. Because there is no global police force to mandate compliance, the entire system depends on states honoring their treaty obligations. Without this binding nature of agreements, the international legal framework would be unable to provide stability or coordination.

163. (A) Protect and assist refugees globally
The primary mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is to protect and assist refugees worldwide. The organization works to ensure that individuals have the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another state. It also seeks permanent solutions for refugees, such as voluntary repatriation, local integration, or resettlement in a third country, while providing aid.

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164. (A) I, II, and IV
Economic globalization has faced several significant criticisms regarding its social and cultural impacts. Many argue that it leads to job displacement in traditional sectors and increases income inequality within many nations. Additionally, it can marginalize indigenous cultures as global brands and values spread. While globalization has reduced extreme poverty in some regions, it has not done so uniformly across the world.

165. (C) It can impose binding economic sanctions on member states.
The Economic and Social Council is a main organ of the UN that coordinates work in the economic and social fields and grants consultative status to NGOs. It consists of 54 members and focuses on development and cooperation. Crucially, ECOSOC does not have the power to impose binding economic sanctions; that authority is exclusively held by the Security Council.

166. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Different global challenges are managed through specific international governance mechanisms. Nuclear proliferation is monitored by the International Atomic Energy Agency. Climate change is addressed through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. International trade disputes are settled by the World Trade Organization. Global public health pandemics and emergencies are managed by the World Health Organization, which provides international policy guidance.

167. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
The "Security Dilemma" describes how a state's efforts to increase its own security can unintentionally make other states feel less secure, leading to an arms race or conflict. International organizations can help mitigate this problem by providing structured forums for negotiation and increasing transparency between states. By facilitating communication and building trust, these organizations reduce the uncertainty that often drives conflict.

168. (A) I, II, IV, and V
Regionalism in the Global South is characterized by both significant progress and persistent challenges. Organizations like SAARC face geopolitical hurdles, while others like the African Union have adopted a principle of "non-indifference." Sub-regional groups have often emerged to address specific localized needs when broader regional efforts stall. While some organizations struggle with economic volatility, they remain important platforms for fostering cooperation.

169. (B) The emergence of transnational advocacy networks capable of mobilizing global campaigns quickly
The internet and digital communications have significantly impacted global governance by enabling the rise of transnational advocacy networks. these networks can quickly mobilize global campaigns, raise awareness of human rights abuses, and pressure governments and international organizations to act. This increased connectivity has empowered non-state actors and facilitated more rapid and widespread international communication, although it also presents cybersecurity challenges.

170. (B) It focuses strictly on genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity.
The Responsibility to Protect doctrine is a specific international framework focused on preventing four major mass atrocities: genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity. It asserts that if a state fails to protect its population from these crimes, the international community must take collective action. R2P is not a binding treaty but a widely endorsed international norm.

171. (B) The law that governs the way in which warfare is conducted
Jus in bello, also known as international humanitarian law, refers to the set of rules that govern the conduct of parties during an armed conflict. It aims to limit the suffering caused by war by protecting those who are not participating in hostilities and restricting the methods and means of warfare. This is distinct from jus ad bellum rules.

172. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Global governance of cyberspace remains fragmented because states have fundamental disagreements on key issues such as national sovereignty, freedom of expression, and

cybersecurity. There is no single, overarching treaty that regulates the entire digital realm. Instead, governance is composed of a patchwork of national laws, voluntary norms, and private sector standards, reflecting the diverse and often conflicting interests involved.

173. (B) To provide zero- to low-interest loans and grants to the world's poorest countries
The International Development Association is part of the World Bank Group and focuses on the world's poorest countries. Its primary mandate is to provide zero- to low-interest loans, known as credits, and grants for programs that boost economic growth, reduce inequalities, and improve people's living conditions. IDA is a critical source of development financing for nations without market access.

174. (A) II and III
According to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, the primary sources of international law include international treaties and general principles of law recognized by nations. Treaties create specific binding obligations for those states that sign and ratify them. While judicial decisions and the resolutions of the UN General Assembly are influential in the development of legal norms, they are.

175. (C) It has a permanent secretariat headquartered in Geneva.
The G20 is an informal forum for international economic cooperation, comprising both developed and emerging economies. It was established in 1999 and its presidency rotates annually among its members. Crucially, the G20 does not have a permanent secretariat or a fixed headquarters. Instead, the presiding country provides the necessary administrative support and organizes the annual summit, reflecting the group's informality.

176. (A) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
Key terms are used to describe various aspects of the international system. The Global South refers to developing and less developed nations. The Bretton Woods system was the post-WWII economic order. Multilateralism is the coordination of relations among three or more states. Hegemony describes the dominance of a single state over others. These concepts provide a framework for analyzing contemporary affairs.

177. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
The veto power in the UN Security Council was originally intended to ensure that the great powers would act together, preventing a direct conflict between them. However, it has also been frequently criticized as a major obstacle to UN action. In many cases, the use of the veto by a permanent member has paralyzed the Council, preventing it from maintaining international peace.

178. (A) I, II, IV, and V
Globalization has significantly impacted the Global South through increased integration into supply chains and technology transfer. It has spurred rapid, albeit unequal, economic growth. However, it also raises concerns about neocolonialism and economic dependence. While the process brings many benefits, it does not provide complete immunity from global financial shocks; instead, developing nations are often more vulnerable to these crises.

179. (B) Polluter Pays Principle
In the scenario where a small island state faces threats from climate change caused by external emissions, it is most likely to invoke the "Polluter Pays Principle." This international legal principle asserts that those responsible for causing environmental damage should bear the costs of managing it and compensating those affected. It is a key argument in contemporary discussions regarding global justice.

180. (B) Areas and resources that do not fall under the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state
Global commons are resource domains and areas that fall outside the sovereign jurisdiction of any single nation-state. These shared assets, which include the high seas, the atmosphere, and outer space, are considered the common heritage of all people. Their management requires international cooperation and treaties to ensure they are used sustainably and equitably, preventing the over-exploitation of shared resources.

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216. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Theoretical perspectives offer different views on the role of international organizations. Neoliberalism argues that they reduce transaction costs and facilitate cooperation. Neorealism suggests they reflect the distribution of power and serve dominant states. Marxism views them as tools for capitalist hegemony. Constructivism emphasizes their role in shaping state identities and creating international norms that influence how states interact globally.

217. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
Multilateralism is the coordination of relations among three or more states based on established principles, and it is a core value of the United Nations. In contrast, unilateralism involves states acting alone without international consultation or cooperation. Unilateralism is generally discouraged by the UN, as the organization's primary purpose is to promote collective action and peaceful cooperation among states.

218. (A) I, II, and IV
The United Nations Development Programme is the UN's global development network, focusing on poverty eradication and reducing inequalities. It is well-known for publishing the Human Development Report and introducing the Human Development Index to measure progress beyond economic growth. UNDP is not a military agency and its funding comes from voluntary contributions as well as assessed portions.

219. (C) International Monetary Fund
The International Monetary Fund is the primary international institution designed to provide short-term financial assistance to member states facing balance of payment crises and economic shocks. By providing stabilization loans, the IMF helps countries manage sudden capital flight and restore economic stability. This is distinct from the World Bank, which focuses on long-term development projects rather than immediate stabilization.

220. (C) Democracies rarely, if ever, fight wars against other democracies.
The Democratic Peace Theory is a prominent idea in international relations which asserts that democratic states rarely, if ever, go to war with each other. This is attributed to shared democratic values, institutional constraints, and economic interdependence. While democracies do fight wars with non-democratic states, the theory suggests that stable peace is more likely between democratic nations.

221. (A) Protect foreign direct investment and provide dispute resolution mechanisms.
Bilateral Investment Treaties are agreements between two countries that aim to promote and protect foreign direct investment. These treaties typically provide legal protections for investors and establish mechanisms for dispute resolution, such as international arbitration. By reducing the risks associated with investing abroad, BITs encourage capital flows between nations, although they can also limit the regulatory flexibility of governments.

222. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The legitimacy of global governance institutions is frequently called into question because many people perceive a "democratic deficit." These institutions often lack direct accountability to the citizens they affect, as decision-makers are typically appointed government officials rather than elected representatives. This gap between international policy and democratic influence leads to concerns about the transparency and fairness of governance.

223. (B) To serve as the authoritative advocate for the global environment
The United Nations Environment Programme is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda and promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development. Its core mandate is to serve as an authoritative advocate for the protection of the global environment, coordinating international efforts to address challenges such as climate change and pollution.

224. (A) I, II, and III
International law faces several fundamental challenges, most notably the lack of a centralized enforcement mechanism like a global police force. Additionally, the principle of state sovereignty can hinder compliance, as states may prioritize their national interests over legal obligations.

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growth, but these reforms can also lead to social displacement and increased dependence on international capital flows.

190. (A) Taking cost-effective measures despite lack of scientific certainty
The Precautionary Principle is a key concept in international environmental law, suggesting that when there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation. It encourages a proactive approach to protection, prioritizing the prevention of potential harm even when exact risks are uncertain.

191. (A) A bilateral or multilateral treaty
Extradition is the formal process where one state surrenders an individual to another state for prosecution or punishment for a crime. In international law, this process generally requires the existence of a bilateral or multilateral treaty between the two states involved. These treaties define the specific crimes and procedures that allow for the legal transfer of individuals across national borders.

192. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The principle of sovereign equality is a fundamental pillar of the United Nations General Assembly. This principle is operationalized through the "one-state, one-vote" system, where every member state has equal voting power regardless of its size, population, or economic strength. This structure ensures that all nations have a formal voice in the international community's primary deliberative body and processes.

193. (C) Transnational NGOs, social movements, and advocacy networks
Global civil society is composed of a diverse range of non-state actors that operate across national borders. This includes transnational non-governmental organizations, social movements, and advocacy networks. These actors play an essential role in global governance by providing expertise, raising public awareness, and pressuring governments and international organizations to address various social, economic, and environmental issues on a global scale.

194. (A) I, II, and III
The World Bank was established at the Bretton Woods Conference with the primary goal of promoting long-term economic development and poverty reduction. Unlike the UN General Assembly, voting power in the World Bank is proportional to a country's financial contribution. It focuses on funding development projects rather than providing short-term stabilization loans, which is the mandate of the International Monetary Fund.

195. (C) IMF - Resolving territorial border disputes
International institutions are established with specific mandates. The ILO sets labor standards, the WTO regulates trade using the Most-Favored-Nation principle, and UNEP manages the global environmental agenda. However, the IMF's primary role is to ensure monetary stability and provide financial assistance for balance of payments problems. It does not have the jurisdiction or the mandate to resolve sovereign border disputes.

196. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Foundation documents and treaties define the roles of various international bodies. The UN Charter is the foundational treaty of the UN. The Rome Statute established the International Criminal Court. The Kyoto Protocol was the first binding agreement on greenhouse gas emissions. UNCLOS provides the legal framework for maritime laws and the management of the world's oceans and their shared resources.

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197. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
The global commons are not immune to environmental degradation; in fact, they are particularly vulnerable because they lack an overarching enforcement authority. Without a world government or strong international regulation, these shared resources often suffer from over-exploitation and pollution. This highlights the inherent difficulty in managing areas that lie beyond the sovereign jurisdiction of any single state through international cooperation.

198. (A) I, II, IV, and V
Several proposals have been made to democratize the United Nations and increase its accountability. these include establishing a UN Parliamentary

for managing the resolution of trade disputes between its member states. It ensures that the rules of international trade are followed and provides a structured mechanism for addressing complaints about trade violations. The DSB has the authority to establish panels and authorize measures if necessary.

234. (A) I, II, and IV
Globalization has both negative and positive impacts on the environment. It has increased carbon emissions due to the expansion of global transport and led to the exploitation of resources in developing nations. However, it has also facilitated the development of international environmental agreements by increasing global awareness and cooperation. While it presents significant challenges, it has not yet reversed change.

235. (A) States can voluntarily opt-out of jus cogens norms via bilateral treaties.
Jus cogens norms are peremptory rules of international law that are considered so fundamental that no derogation from them is permitted. These norms, which include prohibitions on genocide, slavery, and torture, are universally binding on all states. Importantly, states cannot voluntarily opt-out of these rules through bilateral treaties. Any treaty that conflicts with a jus cogens norm is void.

236. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
Various actors play distinct roles in the global system based on their organizational structure. The United Nations is an intergovernmental organization composed of sovereign states. Apple Inc. is a transnational corporation operating across multiple borders. Amnesty International is a non-governmental organization focused on human rights. Al-Qaeda is categorized as a violent non-state actor. These entities all influence contemporary governance.

237. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
Global governance does not imply a strict hierarchical structure like that of a national government. Instead, it operates through complex and decentralized networks of rules, norms, and institutions that manage global issues in an anarchic world. While it involves some formal bodies like the UN, it also relies on informal forums, private standards, and voluntary cooperation between diverse actors.

238. (A) I, II, III, and V
The United Nations promotes democratization through a variety of peaceful initiatives, such as providing electoral assistance and monitoring to ensure free and fair elections. It also supports civil society organizations and works to strengthen independent judiciaries and the rule of law. Protecting freedom of the press is another key goal. The UN does not mandate any single political system.

239. (B) The domestic legal systems of the ratifying states and the treaty's internal mechanisms
Once a legally binding treaty to ban lethal autonomous weapons is ratified, its enforcement power is derived from the internal mechanisms of the treaty itself and the domestic legal systems of the states that have agreed to it. By ratifying the treaty, states commit to incorporating its rules into their national laws and following established procedures for compliance monitoring.

240. (B) Smaller groups of states within a broader region formed for specific localized cooperation
Sub-regional organizations are smaller groups of states within a larger geographic region that form alliances for more specific and localized cooperation. These organizations, such as the Gulf Cooperation Council or the East African Community, often focus on economic integration or regional security that addresses the unique needs of their members. They can be more effective than larger organizations at integration.

241. (B) The preservation of territorial boundaries as they existed at the moment of independence
The principle of uti possidetis juris is an international legal doctrine which asserts that new states should inherit the same boundaries that were in place at the moment of their independence. This principle is intended to prevent territorial disputes and conflict during the process of decolonization or state succession by providing a clear basis for determining contemporary national borders.

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personality or rights. However, they exert immense influence on global governance through their economic power and lobbying efforts. TNCs can shape international trade and environmental policies, highlighting the growing importance of non-state actors in contemporary global politics.

208. (A) I, II, and IV
In international law, the global commons are strictly defined as areas that lie beyond the sovereign jurisdiction of any state. These include the deep seabed, the atmosphere, and Antarctica. While the Amazon Rainforest is of global environmental importance, it is located within the sovereign territories of several states. Similarly, national airspace is under the absolute control of state.

209. (C) It creates a "spaghetti bowl" effect of overlapping and complex trade rules.
The proliferation of regional trade agreements has created a "spaghetti bowl" effect in the global trading system. This refers to the complex and often overlapping set of trade rules and tariffs that result from numerous bilateral and regional deals. While these agreements can facilitate trade between specific partners, they also complicate the multilateral trading system managed by the WTO.

210. (A) The study of principles, norms, rules, and decision-making procedures around which actor expectations converge.
Regime theory in international relations focuses on the study of the principles, norms, rules, and decision-making procedures that states use to coordinate their behavior in specific areas. These "regimes" help facilitate cooperation by creating shared expectations and reducing uncertainty in an anarchic world. The theory explains how international institutions can influence state behavior even without a centralized authority.

211. (B) G7
The G7 is an informal forum that brings together the leaders of seven of the world's most advanced and developed democracies to coordinate their economic and security policies. It provides a platform for discussing global challenges and setting agendas for other international organizations. Unlike the G-77 or BRICS, which represent developing and emerging nations, the G7 reflects western interests.

212. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalization has unintentionally facilitated the rise of global terrorist networks by improving international transportation, communication, and financial systems. These advancements allow non-state actors to operate more effectively across national borders, enabling them to coordinate activities, move funds, and spread their ideologies globally. This transboundary nature of modern terrorism presents a significant challenge for traditional state-based security frameworks.

213. (D) The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
The concept of the "Common Heritage of Mankind" was a foundational principle used in the drafting of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. It specifically applies to the deep seabed and its mineral resources, asserting that they should be managed for the benefit of all humanity. This principle ensures that no single state claims sovereignty.

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214. (A) I, II, and IV
The International Labour Organization is dedicated to promoting social justice and internationally recognized human and labor rights. Its core functions include setting international labor standards, promoting decent work for all, and protecting workers' rights globally. The ILO features a unique tripartite structure involving governments, employers, and workers. It does not adjudicate territorial border disputes between sovereign nations.

215. (A) It involves coercion and military threats.
Soft power is the ability to influence others through the attractiveness of ideas, culture, and values, rather than through coercion or military threats. International organizations frequently rely on soft power, using norm-setting and persuasion to shape state behavior. UNESCO is a prime example of an organization that promotes soft power through cultural exchange and education, fostering international cooperation peacefully.

251. (B) The convergence of major powers' strategic interests
The passage asserts that the effectiveness of international bodies depends largely on the strategic alignment of major powers rather than just their institutional mandates. This alignment dictates whether an intervention succeeds or fails in peacebuilding. While organisations provide platforms for dialogue, their enforcement capacity is often restricted by the specific sovereign interests and political motivations of influential global actors.

252. (A) Prioritizing security stabilization versus humanitarian coordination
The mission faced a specific struggle between stabilizing security apparatuses and coordinating humanitarian corridors effectively. This tension illustrates a frequent operational challenge where military or political security objectives conflict with urgent humanitarian needs. Managing these competing priorities is a common difficulty in multilateral missions, as resources and strategies must be balanced to address both immediate protection and long-term aid.

253. (C) The sovereign reservations of the involved parties
The scenario emphasizes that the ability of international organizations to enforce peace is frequently limited by the sovereign reservations of the parties involved. States often guard their autonomy, which restricts the authority of external bodies to implement binding peace measures. This highlights the inherent friction between collective security mechanisms and the preservation of national sovereignty in modern international conflict resolution.

254. (D) Multidimensional security stabilization
Academics discuss the necessary shift from traditional peacekeeping methods toward more integrated and multidimensional security stabilization. This approach recognizes that modern conflicts require a combination of military, diplomatic, and humanitarian responses to be effective. Stabilizing a region involves addressing diverse security facets simultaneously rather than relying solely on troop deployments or simple monitoring, ensuring a more comprehensive path to peace.

255. (C) Address multifaceted and complex modern conflicts
Collective security mechanisms must evolve continuously to stay relevant in the face of complex and multifaceted modern conflicts. These contemporary disputes often involve diverse actors and unconventional challenges that traditional models may fail to address. Adaptation ensures that international response frameworks can handle the shifting dynamics of global security, including humanitarian crises and localized tensions that cross sovereign borders.

256. (B) By directly linking financial aid to democratic reforms
The international agency integrated development cooperation by directly connecting financial assistance to the implementation of democratic reforms and judicial independence. This approach uses economic aid as leverage to encourage institutional changes in post-conflict nations. By making funds contingent on specific political milestones, organizations attempt to foster sustainable governance structures while providing the necessary resources for national economic reconstruction.

257. (D) It was heavily perceived as a culturally misaligned imposition
Local actors resisted the conditionality approach because they viewed the mandated electoral frameworks as culturally misaligned impositions. These perceptions arise when international democratization programs fail to account for unique domestic political realities or historical contexts. Such resistance highlights the tension between universal democratic norms and the specific values or practices of a nation undergoing a sensitive political transition.

258. (A) It often marginalized crucial grassroots consensus-building
Observers noted that focusing heavily on rapid democratization often leads to the marginalization of grassroots consensus-building. While elections are vital, a rushed transition can bypass the essential process of fostering broad social agreement and civic education. This imbalance risks creating a democratic structure that lacks deep-seated legitimacy and stability,

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Ambiguity in the interpretation of customary norms also presents difficulties. However, international law remains highly relevant in regulating international trade.

225. (D) Decisions on substantive matters require the affirmative vote of all 15 members.
The UN Security Council consists of 15 members, with five permanent and ten non-permanent members elected for two-year terms. The Council's presidency rotates monthly. On substantive matters, decisions require the affirmative vote of nine members, including the concurring votes of all five permanent members. It does not require a unanimous vote from all 15 members to pass resolutions.

226. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Major UN conferences have addressed a wide range of global issues. The Rio Conference in 1992 focused on environment and development. The Beijing Conference in 1995 was a landmark for women's rights. The Copenhagen Conference in 1995 addressed social development. The Rome Conference in 1998 led to the establishment of the International Criminal Court. These events set standards.

227. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
Cultural globalization involves the increasing spread and exchange of ideas, meanings, and values across the world, facilitated by global media and technology. While this process leads to significant cultural changes, it does not always result in the complete eradication of local traditions. Instead, it often produces cultural hybridization, where global and local influences interact and create diversity.

228. (A) I, II, IV, and V
The African Union succeeded the Organization of African Unity in 2002 and includes all 55 African nations. Its strategic framework for development is known as Agenda 2063. Unlike its predecessor, the AU has moved away from absolute non-interference toward a policy of "non-indifference," allowing for intervention in member states during serious crises. It also maintains a standby force.

229. (A) A shift from traditional state-centric governance to networked and multi-stakeholder governance
The proliferation of non-state actors, such as NGOs and transnational corporations, has led to a significant shift in global governance. The system has moved away from a strictly state-centric model toward a more networked and multi-stakeholder approach. These actors now play a crucial role in setting agendas, providing expertise, and influencing international policies, reflecting a complex and interconnected system.

230. (C) Long-term efforts to address root causes and rebuild institutions
Peacebuilding refers to the long-term efforts and strategies designed to address the root causes of conflict and rebuild societies after violence has ended. It involves strengthening state institutions, promoting economic development, and fostering social reconciliation to ensure that peace is sustainable and the conflict does not recur. This process goes beyond maintaining a ceasefire to create foundations for peace.

231. (B) Economically developed and industrialized nations
The "Global North" is a term used to describe the group of economically developed and industrialized nations, which generally have higher levels of income and technological advancement. While many of these countries are physically located in the Northern Hemisphere, the term is primarily a socio-economic and political designation. It is often contrasted with the Global South, comprising developing nations.

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232. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Reforming the United Nations Security Council is an immensely difficult task because it requires amending the UN Charter. This process requires the approval of two-thirds of the General Assembly and ratification by two-thirds of all member states. Most importantly, any such amendment must be ratified by all five permanent members of the Security Council, giving them a final veto.

233. (B) World Trade Organization
The Dispute Settlement Body is a core part of the World Trade Organization, responsible

181. (B) Early mechanism for multilateral consultation and balance of power
The Concert of Europe was a historical mechanism for multilateral consultation among the major European powers after the Napoleonic Wars. It was significant as an early experiment in collective diplomacy and maintaining a balance of power through regular meetings. While it was not a formal international organization in the modern sense, it provided important lessons for the development of later institutions.

182. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
In the modern era of global governance, the role of the state is evolving. While non-state actors like NGOs and corporations exert significant influence over international policies, the state remains the primary subject of international law. States are still the main actors responsible for negotiating treaties and enforcing regulations within their borders. Thus, the state remains central to international coordination.

183. (C) The UN General Assembly meeting in Paris
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly during its meeting in Paris on December 10, 1948. This landmark document set out, for the first time, fundamental human rights to be universally protected. It was a direct response to the atrocities of World War II and has since served as a foundational standard.

184. (A) I, II, and IV
Globalization faces several valid criticisms, including the potential for cultural homogenization or "Americanization," where local traditions are overshadowed by global brands. Critics also point to the immense power of multinational corporations, which can influence government policies. Furthermore, globalization is often linked to environmental degradation due to increased global transport and industrial activity. It does not, however, lead to perfect equality.

185. (C) They can authorize military enforcement actions without Security Council approval.
Regional organizations are recognized under Article 52 of the UN Charter as important mechanisms for promoting cooperation among neighboring states. While they play a vital role in local conflict resolution, they cannot authorize military enforcement actions on their own. Under the UN Charter, the use of force for enforcement purposes generally requires the prior authorization of the United Nations Security Council.

186. (A) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
Several concepts are used to define different aspects of security and governance. Human security focuses on protecting individuals from threats like hunger and disease. Collective security is a system where an attack on one member is considered an attack on all. Interdependence describes the mutual reliance between states. Sovereignty is the supreme authority of a state within its own borders.

187. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
The Non-Proliferation Treaty recognizes five states as nuclear-weapon states: China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. These are the same countries that hold permanent seats on the Security Council. However, it is incorrect to state that India, Israel, and Pakistan have signed and ratified the treaty; these nations remain outside the NPT framework for security reasons.

188. (A) I, II, III, and V
Peacebuilding involves a wide range of activities aimed at preventing the recurrence of conflict. These include rebuilding state institutions, fostering economic development, and demobilizing and reintegrating former combatants. Promoting transitional justice is also a key component. Importantly, peacebuilding focuses on supporting long-term stability and does not involve launching preemptive military strikes, which would be inconsistent with the goal of peace.

189. (A) Privatization of state assets and deregulation of markets
Structural adjustment programs imposed by the IMF often have significant long-term geopolitical and economic effects on developing countries. These programs typically require the privatization of state-owned assets and the deregulation of national markets as conditions for financial assistance. The goal is to encourage market-led

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242. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalization has paradoxically led to the strengthening of regional organizations as states seek to manage its effects. By forming regional blocs, states can enhance their collective bargaining power in the global market and protect their economies from international volatility. Regional cooperation provides a middle ground between the nation-state and the complexities of global integration, allowing for more localized control.

243. (C) 2015
The Millennium Development Goals were a set of eight global objectives adopted by the United Nations in 2000. These goals, which included eradicating extreme poverty and achieving universal primary education, were targeted for achievement by the year 2015. While the MDGs led to significant progress in many areas, they were subsequently replaced by more comprehensive Sustainable Development Goals.

244. (A) I, II, and IV
International law and state sovereignty exist in a complex relationship. While international law inherently restricts absolute sovereignty by establishing rules that states must follow, state consent remains a primary basis for most legal obligations. Additionally, the traditional understanding of sovereignty has evolved due to the rise of international human rights law, which asserts that states have internal responsibilities.

245. (C) They report directly to the UN Security Council for all operational decisions.
Specialized agencies are autonomous international organizations that are linked to the United Nations through special agreements. These include institutions like the World Bank, the IMF, and the WHO. While they coordinate their activities through the Economic and Social Council, they are not under the direct operational control of the Security Council. They maintain their own budgets and mandates.

246. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
Different global institutions have their headquarters located in various cities around the world to facilitate their specific work. The World Trade Organization is based in Geneva, Switzerland. The International Maritime Organization is headquartered in London. The United Nations Environment Programme is located in Nairobi, Kenya. The International Civil Aviation Organization is based in Montreal, Canada. These centers coordinate work.

247. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
The International Criminal Court does not have universal jurisdiction over all crimes committed globally. Its jurisdiction is generally limited to crimes committed by the nationals of states that are parties to the Rome Statute or on their territory. The court can also exercise jurisdiction if a situation is referred to it by the UN Security Council for individual.

248. (A) I, II, IV, and V
Globalization has significantly increased global interconnectedness and led to the creation of many new governance mechanisms. While it fosters integration, it also spurs localized backlash and nationalist movements in response to perceived threats to identity. Globalization has also facilitated the rapid spread of global health crises. It has not, however, eliminated the need for the state system.

249. (B) Institutional paralysis, preventing the Council from passing binding resolutions
A critical consequence of the veto power held by the five permanent members of the Security Council is the potential for institutional paralysis. During major geopolitical conflicts, a permanent member may use its veto to block resolutions that it perceives as contrary to its national interests. This prevents the Council from taking binding action to resolve critical global threats.

250. (A) Formal and informal processes managing relations among diverse actors
In the contemporary international system, global governance is best defined as the formal and informal processes that manage relations among a diverse range of actors, including states, international organizations, and non-state entities. It does not refer to a centralized world government but rather to a complex and evolving network of rules, norms, and cooperation that addresses challenges.

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Assembly and enhancing the participation of NGOs. Reforming the Security Council to better reflect modern geopolitics and increasing transparency in the selection of the Secretary-General are also key goals. Giving veto power to all member states, however, is not supported.

199. (C) International Monetary Fund
The International Monetary Fund is the primary international institution designed to provide short-term financial assistance to member states facing balance of payment crises and economic shocks. By providing stabilization loans, the IMF helps countries manage sudden capital flight and restore economic stability. This is distinct from the World Bank, which focuses on long-term development projects rather than immediate financial stabilization.

200. (A) Theory that technical cooperation leads to broader political integration
Functionalism is an international relations theory that suggests technical and economic cooperation in specific, non-political areas will eventually lead to broader political integration. The idea is that as states work together to solve functional problems, they build trust and create institutions that gradually expand their scope. This bottom-up approach to integration is believed to create a more stable world.

201. (B) 2005
The Responsibility to Protect doctrine was officially and unanimously endorsed by all United Nations member states at the 2005 World Summit. This landmark agreement represented a collective commitment to prevent genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity. It marked a significant evolution in international norms, establishing that the international community has a responsibility to intervene when a state fails.

202. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Customary international law is a primary source of legal obligations that binds all states, regardless of whether they have formally codified these rules in a treaty. It is derived from the widespread and consistent practice of states over time, coupled with opinio juris, the belief that such practice is legally required. This ensures that certain fundamental norms are universally applicable worldwide.

203. (C) Washington Consensus
The "Washington Consensus" is the concept used to describe the set of neoliberal economic policies promoted by the IMF and World Bank. These policies typically require borrowing countries to implement fiscal discipline, tax reform, and the privatization of state enterprises. While intended to encourage growth and stability, these conditions have been widely criticized for their negative impact on social welfare in countries.

204. (B) I, II, and IV
The International Court of Justice consists of 15 judges elected by the General Assembly and Security Council. It is responsible for settling legal disputes between states and providing advisory opinions to UN organs. However, the ICJ does not have its own police force to mandate its decisions. Enforcement of its judgments depends on the voluntary compliance of states and Council.

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205. (D) It is a purely geographical term meaning countries strictly south of the equator.
The term "Global South" is primarily a political and economic designation rather than a strictly geographical one. It refers generally to the developing and least developed nations of the world, many of which are located in the Southern Hemisphere, but it also includes many countries in the North. These nations often advocate for greater equity and reform in international governance institutions.

206. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Major historical treaties and conferences have shaped the international system. The Peace of Westphalia established the foundational concept of state sovereignty. The Congress of Vienna created the Concert of Europe to maintain a balance of power. The Treaty of Versailles established the League of Nations after World War I. The UN Charter created a new system of collective security following conflict.

207. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.
Transnational corporations are not subjects of international law in the same way as sovereign states; they do not possess the same legal

as it prioritizes formal procedures over inclusive community participation.

259. (C) Supporting civic education and institutional capacity before electoral cycles
Academic observers suggest that development cooperation should prioritize civic education and the building of institutional capacity before initiating rapid electoral cycles. This sequence ensures that the foundation for a stable democracy is established through an informed citizenry and functional administrative bodies. By focusing on these elements first, international interventions can create a more sustainable environment for successful democratic transitions.

260. (A) Interdependent processes requiring nuanced strategies
International organizations increasingly recognize that sustainable economic development and robust democratic governance are interdependent processes. Effective operations require nuanced, long-term strategies that address both areas simultaneously rather than relying on rigid, short-term conditionality models. This integrated perspective acknowledges that economic stability supports democratic institutions, while transparent governance fosters the necessary environment for lasting development and prosperity within a recovering nation.

261. (D) Due to bureaucratic delays and overlapping internal agency mandates
During the cross-border refugee crisis, the United Nations faced criticism primarily due to bureaucratic delays and overlapping mandates among its various internal agencies. These administrative hurdles hindered a swift and unified global response to the unfolding emergency. The scenario illustrates how complex institutional structures can sometimes impede the efficiency of humanitarian interventions, leading to questions about the organization's immediate operational relevance.

262. (B) Debates regarding charter provisions for intervention without host-state consent
The humanitarian intervention was initially stalled by debates over whether the United Nations Charter authorized immediate action without the explicit consent of the host state. This legal and political dilemma reflects the tension between international humanitarian responsibility and the principle of state sovereignty. Resolving such jurisdictional questions is a critical step in legitimizing non-military interventions during urgent cross-border crises.

263. (C) It uniquely legitimizes collective action but its operational mechanisms are very slow
A fundamental paradox exists where the United Nations is the only global entity capable of legitimizing collective action, yet its operational mechanisms are often too slow for rapid crises. While the organization provides necessary legal and moral authority, bureaucratic processes can delay the actual delivery of aid or security. This highlights the gap between normative influence and efficiency.

264. (D) Unique and globally recognized normative power
Scholars argue that the ongoing relevance of the United Nations is primarily based on its unique and globally recognized normative power. Even when logistical roles are limited, the organization shapes international responses by establishing universal standards and guidelines. This normative influence allows the UN to maintain its central position in global governance by defining the principles that guide collective action.

265. (A) By establishing comprehensive universal guidelines for refugee protection
Despite logistical limitations, the United Nations shaped the international response by establishing comprehensive universal guidelines for refugee protection. These standards provided a framework for other actors and member states to follow, demonstrating the organization's role as a vital standard-setting arena. By codifying humanitarian principles, the UN ensures that the global community acts with a shared understanding of rights and obligations.

266. (B) A more equitable distribution of veto powers and expanded permanent representation
Emerging economies advocated for reforms including a more equitable distribution of veto powers and an expansion of permanent representation. They argued that the current decision-making structure reflects outdated historical contexts rather than contemporary

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(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

25. The transition from 'Look East' to 'Act East' primarily signifies a shift towards:
(A) Purely cultural exchanges without any significant economic motives.
(B) Abandoning existing diplomatic relationships with East Asian nations.
(C) Greater focus on security cooperation and strategic engagement.
(D) Restricting bilateral trade exclusively to regional agricultural products.

26. The increase in Indian diaspora engagement through initiatives like the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is a direct cause of:
(A) An enhanced projection of India's soft power globally.
(B) A decrease in foreign direct investment into India.
(C) The cancellation of all dual citizenship programs.
(D) A decline in India's bilateral relations with nations.

27. Consider the following statements about the BRICS organization:
1. BRICS stands for Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.
2. The New Development Bank (NDB) was established by BRICS nations.
3. India hosted the very first BRICS summit in 2009.
4. BRICS aims to reform global financial governance.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 3, and 4 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

28. Identify the correct pair regarding India's strategic partnerships.
(A) Quad - India, US, UK, Australia
(B) I2U2 - India, Israel, UAE, US
(C) AUKUS - India, UK, US
(D) BIMSTEC - India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Pakistan

29. A nation utilizes its cultural heritage, such as traditional medicine and cinema, to build goodwill in foreign countries without using coercion. This is a practical application of:
(A) Smart Power
(B) Hard Power
(C) Soft Power
(D) Sharp Power

30. Consider the following statements regarding India's engagement with the European Union (EU):
1. The EU is one of India's largest trading partners.
2. India and the EU have a Strategic Partnership established in 2004.
3. A Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) has already been successfully implemented.
4. Cooperation on climate change is a major pillar of India-EU relations.
5. Both entities hold regular summits to discuss political and security issues.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
(B) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

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31. All of the following are primary objectives of BIMSTEC EXCEPT:
(A) Creating a military alliance against external threats.
(B) Accelerating economic growth in the Bay of Bengal region.
(C) Promoting active collaboration on matters of common interest.
(D) Enhancing regional connectivity.

32. What is meant by the term "Vaccine Diplomacy" in the context of India's foreign policy?
(A) Imposing high tariffs on pharmaceutical imports.
(B) Supplying vaccines to other countries to strengthen ties.
(C) Restricting domestic vaccine production capacity.
(D) Utilizing vaccines as specific biological weapons.

models to robust, legally binding international commitments. Relying on the goodwill of sovereign states is often insufficient to prevent the exploitation of shared resources. Establishing mandatory regulations and enforcement mechanisms is necessary to ensure that all parties adhere to sustainability standards and contribute fairly to collective preservation efforts.

275. (C) Through a flexible market-based regulatory framework
Industrialized nations advocated for a market-based regulatory framework to manage global atmospheric emissions. This approach typically involves economic incentives and trading systems to control pollution levels. By utilizing market mechanisms, these states aim to address environmental challenges through flexibility and efficiency, though this often contrasts with the demands of developing nations for mandates based on historical responsibility and equity.

276. (A) The ambiguity of treaties lacking specific regulations
The core challenge in governing deep-sea mineral extraction stems from the ambiguity of existing treaties. While these agreements provide broad principles, they lack the specific operational regulations and dispute-resolution mechanisms needed to address rapid technological advancements. This regulatory gap creates uncertainty and allows for unregulated commercial activities that may harm the global commons before effective oversight can be established.

277. (D) They forcefully prioritized strategic resource acquisition over environmental preservation
Defiant states prioritized strategic resource acquisition over environmental preservation when faced with a proposed mining moratorium. This choice reflects a focus on national economic and security interests over collective ecological health. In jurisdictional voids, countries often feel compelled to secure vital minerals quickly to gain a competitive advantage, even if such actions undermine global efforts to protect international waters.

278. (B) Regulatory arbitrage exploiting jurisdictional voids
The competitive exploitation of the global commons is described as a race characterized by regulatory arbitrage. This occurs when actors exploit jurisdictional voids or weak oversight to gain advantages that would be impossible under stricter regulations. In the deep-sea context, corporations and governments use the lack of clear international laws to advance their commercial interests at the expense of environment.

279. (C) Engaging in forward-looking anticipatory policy-making
Academics assert that effective global governance of the commons necessitates the use of anticipatory policy-making. Instead of simply reacting to crises or technological breakthroughs after they occur, governance structures should be forward-looking. This proactive approach aims to establish regulations and ethical frameworks before commercial exploitation begins, ensuring that shared resources are managed sustainably and with appropriate international oversight.

280. (D) Voluntary state cooperation and normative peer pressure
The inability to establish immediate oversight in the deep-sea scenario illustrates the systemic weakness of governance models that rely on voluntary state cooperation and normative peer pressure. Without binding legal mechanisms, individual nations are more likely to ignore international norms in favor of their own strategic goals. This highlights the limitations of soft law when facing significant economic or commercial incentives.

281. (A) To establish a comprehensive common economic market and a unified security protocol
The coalition of neighboring states formed a regional organisation with the primary goal of establishing a common economic market and a unified security protocol. These objectives aim to promote deeper integration and localized stability by harmonizing trade and defense policies. Such structures act as intermediate layers of governance that address regional needs while shielding members from broader international volatility or conflict.

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282. (B) By thoroughly standardizing border regulations and successfully harmonizing trade policies
The regional bloc successfully protected its member states from global supply chain disruptions by standardizing border regulations and harmonizing trade policies. These actions created a more predictable and efficient internal market, reducing the impact of external economic shocks. By coordinating their regulatory frameworks, the states were able to maintain economic stability and ensure the steady flow of goods across borders.

283. (B) The inadvertent domination of the policy-making agenda by larger member states
Internal tensions within the regional organisation were primarily caused by the inadvertent domination of the policy-making agenda by larger member states. This led to accusations of regional hegemony, as smaller nations felt their interests were being marginalized. Balancing the power of more influential members with the needs of the collective group is a common challenge in maintaining regional cooperation.

284. (A) The utilization of shared economic incentives
The regional bloc mediated a territorial dispute by utilizing shared economic incentives as a catalyst for political resolution. By focusing on the mutual benefits of cooperation, the organization encouraged its members to settle their differences peacefully. This approach demonstrates how economic integration can provide powerful leverage for diplomatic breakthroughs, helping states overcome historical conflicts through the pursuit of prosperity.

285. (C) They benefit immensely from deeper cultural understanding and immediate geographic stakes
Regional organisations can address localized conflicts more effectively because they possess a deeper cultural understanding and immediate geographic stakes. Being closer to the situation allows these bodies to tailor their mediation strategies to specific local contexts. Their shared history and proximity often mean that members have a stronger mutual interest in maintaining stability than broader, more distant international organizations.

286. (D) Resource management and infrastructure development
The sub-regional organisation operated with a highly focused mandate centered on resource management and infrastructure development within a specific river basin. Unlike larger blocs with broad political goals, this entity prioritized technical cooperation on projects like hydroelectric plants. This narrow scope allowed the participating developing economies to address immediate logistical needs and manage shared natural resources more effectively and directly.

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287. (C) Micro-level focus that allowed states to bypass highly politicized overarching agendas
The operational effectiveness of the sub-regional entity was due to its micro-level focus, which allowed member states to bypass the complex and highly politicized agendas of larger forums. By narrowing the conversation to specific technical issues, the organization facilitated more productive dialogue. This approach enables states to work together on practical solutions without being hindered by broader geopolitical tensions.

288. (B) Strictly technocratic rather than engaging in a purely political dialogue
By compartmentalizing operational issues, the sub-regional organisation fostered a dialogue that was strictly technocratic rather than purely political. This focus on technical expertise and practical problem-solving helped the states reach agreements on complex projects. Such a technocratic approach minimizes ideological conflict, allowing experts to design collaborative frameworks based on shared data and engineering requirements rather than nationalistic rhetoric.

289. (D) Severe funding constraints alongside a profound lack of enforcement capabilities
A severe systemic vulnerability of hyper-focused sub-regional entities is their lack of significant funding and enforcement capabilities. While effective at technical integration, they often struggle to ensure compliance if a member state unilaterally withdraws. Without broader institutional weight or robust financial resources, these organizations may find their technical agreements difficult to sustain when faced with political or economic challenges.

290. (A) Promoting wider regional stability
Scholars concluded that sub-regional organisations serve as essential building blocks for promoting wider regional stability. Through localized problem-solving and deep technical integration, these entities help reduce tensions and build trust among neighboring states. Their work on specific, practical issues creates a foundation of cooperation that can eventually lead to broader and more comprehensive regional peace and economic development.

291. (C) The insulation of domestic economies from shocks
The hyper-connected nature of globalisation drastically limits the capacity of individual states to insulate their domestic economies from external systemic shocks. When markets are integrated, financial crises in one region quickly spread across the globe. This interdependence makes it difficult for governments to maintain economic stability through isolated national policies, as they are vulnerable to the rapid transmission of volatility.

292. (A) Algorithmic cross-border capital flights
Independent monetary policies were neutralized by rapid, cross-border capital flights dictated by algorithmic trading. In a globalized economy, investors and automated systems can move massive amounts of money instantly in response to perceived risks. This mobility undermines the effectiveness of national interventions, as the sudden outflow of capital can overwhelm the efforts of central banks to stabilize their economies.

293. (D) Universalizes vulnerability during systemic downturns
Globalisation is described as dual-natured because it magnifies collective prosperity during stable periods while universalizing vulnerability during systemic downturns. While integration drives growth and technological transfer, it also ensures that a crisis in one market affects the entire global network. This shared exposure means that no nation is completely safe from the negative impacts of distant economic failures.

294. (B) The traditional concept of absolute and independent domestic state control
Academics interpret systemic financial shocks as proof that globalisation fundamentally alters the traditional concept of absolute and independent domestic state control. The ability of a nation to manage its own economy is diminished by external forces and interconnected markets. This shift necessitates a move away from isolated strategies toward more coordinated, multilateral responses to ensure regional and global stability.

295. (C) Developing robust international regulatory frameworks to stabilize interconnected networks
Effectively managing the impact of modern globalisation requires the development of robust international regulatory frameworks to stabilize interconnected networks. Coordinated policy responses are necessary to handle the speed and scale of global financial flows. By establishing shared rules and oversight mechanisms, the international community can better mitigate the risks associated with market interdependence and prevent future systemic economic collapses.

296. (D) A transboundary pollution dispute affecting agricultural output
The international tribunal adjudicated a dispute involving transboundary pollution caused by industrial runoff from an upstream state. This runoff severely impacted the agricultural output of a downstream neighbor, creating a clear case of cross-border harm. Such disputes are common in international law, where the environmental or economic activities of one nation negatively affect the territory and resources of another.

297. (A) By creating actionable, enforceable obligations
The tribunal's resolution demonstrated the core function of international law by transforming abstract governance principles into actionable and enforceable obligations. By requiring specific safeguards and compensation, the legal judgment provided a clear path for resolving the dispute. This process moves international relations from general norms to concrete duties, ensuring that states are held accountable for actions that cause cross-border harm.

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global power dynamics. These changes are seen as necessary to improve the democratic legitimacy of international governance and ensure that diverse interests are represented in global security matters.

267. (B) Expanding decision-making authority could drastically dilute operational efficiency
Skeptics of structural reform warned that aggressively expanding decision-making authority could dilute operational efficiency. They expressed concern that a larger group of powerful actors might make reaching a consensus nearly impossible during acute global crises. This perspective emphasizes maintaining the ability of international bodies to act decisively, even if it means preserving a less representative and more concentrated power structure.

268. (A) Comprehensive reform efforts are frequently blocked by the very mechanisms they seek to alter
Institutional inertia illustrates that comprehensive reform efforts are frequently blocked by the very mechanisms they aim to change. Those who currently hold privileged positions may resist alterations that threaten their status or influence. This creates a systemic gridlock where the procedures for reform are controlled by parties who benefit from the status quo, making significant structural transformation extremely difficult.

269. (C) With only minor, incremental administrative adjustments
The high-level diplomatic summit ultimately concluded with only minor, incremental administrative adjustments instead of a comprehensive structural overhaul. This outcome reflects the profound difficulty of achieving transformative changes within major international organizations. While there is a universal demand for modernization, the political reality often results in small procedural updates rather than meaningful shifts in the foundational distribution of power.

270. (D) Intensely contested and exceedingly narrow in their application
The passage indicates that the political pathways for implementing changes to foundational power balances are intensely contested and exceedingly narrow. Significant reforms require navigating complex interests and historical precedents, which often limit the scope for rapid transformation. This narrowness explains why institutional evolution tends to be slow and why major changes in representation or authority are rarely achieved in practice.

271. (C) Atmospheric preservation and international maritime zones
The multilateral negotiations on the global commons focused specifically on atmospheric preservation and the management of international maritime zones. These areas represent shared resources that lack defined territorial jurisdictions, making them susceptible to exploitation. Managing these domains requires international cooperation because the actions of individual states can have significant ecological and economic consequences for the entire global community over time.

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272. (B) The concept of common but differentiated responsibilities
Developing states based their advocacy on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. This concept emphasizes that while all nations share the duty to protect the global commons, their individual obligations should reflect their historical contributions to resource exploitation and environmental damage. It highlights the systemic divides between the global north and south regarding economic development and ecological sustainability commitments.

273. (D) The absence of a supranational enforcement authority
Significant free-riding by major economic powers was possible due to the absence of a supranational enforcement authority. Without a body capable of imposing binding limits and penalties, individual states could prioritize their own interests over collective preservation. This situation reflects the tragedy of the commons, where the lack of centralized oversight allows actors to exploit shared resources without consequence.

274. (A) Voluntary compliance models to robust, legally binding commitments
Effective governance of the global commons requires a transition from voluntary compliance

CHAPTER 06

India's Foreign Policy

1. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Gujral Doctrine emphasized non-reciprocity in India's relations with its smaller neighbours.
Reason (R): India aimed to establish absolute hegemony in the South Asian region without acknowledging sovereign equality.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

2. Which of the following principles is NOT a component of the Panchsheel agreement signed in 1954?
(A) Mutual interference in internal affairs
(B) Mutual non-aggression between nations
(C) Peaceful co-existence among states
(D) Equality and mutual economic benefit

3. Consider the following statements regarding India's Nuclear Doctrine.
Statement I: India maintains a policy of "No First Use" (NFU) of nuclear weapons.
Statement II: India reserves the right to use nuclear weapons in response to a biological or chemical weapon attack.
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

4. Match the following items.
List I: (Foreign Policy Doctrines/Concepts)
P. Mandal Theory
Q. Gujral Doctrine
R. Look East Policy
S. SAGAR
List II: (Key Features)
1. Maritime cooperation and security
2. Non-reciprocal relationship
3. Ancient geopolitical concept
4. Economic integration with ASEAN
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

5. Which of the following statements correctly defines India's stance on "Strategic Autonomy"?
(A) Aligning with a single military bloc to ensure national security.
(B) Outsourcing defense mechanisms to various international organizations.
(C) Maintaining independent foreign policy choices without formal alliances.
(D) Avoiding all bilateral relations with the world's major powers.

6. What is the primary effect of the "Neighbourhood First" policy on India's foreign relations?
(A) It shifts diplomatic focus entirely toward Western developed countries.
(B) It prioritizes political and economic engagement with nearby states.
(C) It causes immediate withdrawal from all major global organizations.
(D) It restricts trade relations exclusively to European Union members.

7. Consider the following statements about the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM):
1. India was a founding member of NAM.
2. NAM was formed as a military alliance against the Warsaw Pact.

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298. (B) The absolute primacy of its own domestic economic sovereignty and internal governance
The upstream state initially delayed compliance by citing its own domestic economic sovereignty. This argument suggests that international rulings should not override a nation's right to manage its internal industrial and economic affairs. This highlights a fundamental challenge where states use the concept of sovereignty to resist international legal obligations, exposing the reliance of global governance on political will for enforcement.

299. (B) A broader coalition of surrounding states threatening harsh, collective economic sanctions
The upstream state ultimately complied with the tribunal's judgment only when a broader coalition of states threatened collective economic sanctions. This diplomatic pressure provided the necessary leverage to back the legal ruling. It illustrates that while international law provides the framework for resolution, its enforcement often depends on the willingness of the international community to apply coordinated political and economic force.

300. (A) Collective enforcement and political leverage
The case demonstrates that the success of international law as an instrument of global governance relies heavily on collective enforcement capacity and coordinated political leverage. Legal judgments alone may be insufficient to ensure compliance if sovereign states resist. The effectiveness of the system depends on the international community's ability to unite and apply pressure, transforming legal standards into practical realities.

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(C) Farakka Barrage Treaty - Bangladesh
(D) Mahakali Treaty - Nepal

17. Which approach best describes India's current strategy towards global governance reforms?
(A) Seeking the complete dismantling of the current United Nations structure.
(B) Advocating for reformed multilateralism to reflect contemporary realities.
(C) Preferring unilateral decision-making over international multilateral treaties.
(D) Demanding exclusive veto power for itself over all other global nations.

18. India decides to supply food grains and essential medicines to a neighbouring country facing a severe economic crisis. This action is most indicative of which foreign policy framework?
(A) Neighbourhood First policy
(B) Strategic deterrence
(C) Look East policy
(D) Nuclear ambiguity

19. The "Wuhan Spirit" and "Chennai Connect" are terms associated with India's bilateral relations with which country?
(A) Japan
(B) Russia
(C) China
(D) South Korea

20. Consider the following statements regarding India's relations with its extended neighbourhood.
Statement I: The "Connect Central Asia" policy aims to build strong political and economic ties with Central Asian Republics.
Statement II: India is a full member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

21. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): India has deepened its defense and strategic partnership with the United States in the 21st century.
Reason (R): The signing of foundational agreements like LEMOA, COMCASA, and BECA facilitates military interoperability between India and the US.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

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22. Which among the following is not a mechanism of India-Japan bilateral relations?
(A) 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue
(B) Permanent Military Alliance Treaty
(C) Annual Prime Ministerial Summit
(D) Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

23. Which of the following statements about India-Russia relations is correct?
(A) India does not import any defense equipment from the Russian Federation.
(B) Russia opposed India's accession to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.
(C) Bilateral trade between India and Russia is exclusively settled in US Dollars.
(D) The relationship became a "Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership" in 2010.

24. Match the following items.
List I: (International Organisations)
P. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)
Q. Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
R. G20
S. Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)
List II: (India's Status)
1. Sectoral Dialogue Partner
2. Full Member
3. Non-Member
4. Founding Member
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

3. The first NAM Summit was held in Belgrade in 1961.
4. NAM encourages strict neutrality without taking stances on international issues.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1 and 3 only
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 2 and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

8. Identify the correct pair representing an Indian Prime Minister and their associated foreign policy initiative.
(A) I.K. Gujral - Non-Reciprocal Neighbourhood Policy
(B) Jawaharlal Nehru - Act East Policy
(C) P.V. Narasimha Rao - Connect Central Asia Policy
(D) Narendra Modi - Panchsheel Agreement

9. India signs a free trade agreement with a Southeast Asian country, boosting digital connectivity and joint military exercises. This scenario represents the application of which of the following policies?
(A) Gujral Doctrine
(B) Look West Policy
(C) Act East Policy
(D) Connect Central Asia Policy

10. Consider the following statements regarding India's evolving foreign policy objectives:
1. Eradication of colonialism and racism.
2. Promoting a multipolar world order.
3. Securing permanent membership in the UN Security Council.
4. Exporting democratic ideology through military intervention.
5. Ensuring energy security through diversified imports.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
(B) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(C) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

11. Which of the following is an exception to India's traditional approach to Non-Alignment?
(A) Refusing to join the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO).
(B) Refusing to join the Central Treaty Organization (CENTO).
(C) Organizing the historic Asian Relations Conference in 1947.
(D) Signing the Peace, Friendship and Cooperation Treaty with the USSR in 1971.

12. How is "Soft Power" accurately defined in the context of India's foreign policy?
(A) The use of naval blockades to influence regional maritime trade.
(B) Shaping the preferences of others through cultural appeal and values.
(C) The reliance on economic sanctions to force diplomatic compliance.
(D) The expansion of territorial boundaries through demographic changes.

13. Arrange the following events in India's foreign policy in chronological order:
1. Signing of the Tashkent Agreement
2. Formation of SAARC
3. First Pokhran Nuclear Test
4. Signing of the Panchsheel Agreement

(A) 4, 1, 3, 2
(B) 1, 4, 2, 3
(C) 4, 3, 1, 2
(D) 3, 1, 4, 2

14. To effectively navigate the US-China strategic competition, an Indian diplomat must primarily employ which of the following approaches?
(A) Complete isolationism.
(B) Unconditional military alliance with one party.
(C) Economic embargoes against both nations.
(D) Multi-alignment and issue-based coalitions.

15. Which of the following statements regarding the Simla Agreement (1972) is correct?
(A) It established the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir.
(B) It mandated third-party mediation for all future Indo-Pak disputes.
(C) It was signed between India and China to resolve border issues.
(D) It led to the immediate creation of SAARC.

16. Identify the incorrect pair of a bilateral agreement and its associated country.
(A) Indus Water Treaty - Pakistan
(B) Katchatheevu Agreement - Maldives

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33. Which of the following is the most appropriate reason for India not joining the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)?
(A) Lack of geographical proximity to RCEP nations.
(B) Concerns over trade deficits and domestic industry protection.
(C) Pressure from the United Nations to boycott the agreement.
(D) Complete opposition to free trade agreements in principle.

34. To evaluate the success of India's "Act East" policy, an analyst should primarily examine:
(A) Connectivity projects in the Northeast linking to Southeast Asia.
(B) The volume of trade conducted with Latin American countries.
(C) The number of treaties signed with individual European nations.
(D) Agricultural subsidies provided to various domestic farmers.

35. Which statement regarding India's role in the United Nations is incorrect?
(A) India has been a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council multiple times.
(B) India is a major contributor to UN Peacekeeping operations.
(C) India holds veto power in the UN General Assembly.
(D) India actively advocates for the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT).

36. Identify the incorrect pair regarding India's international initiatives.
(A) International Solar Alliance (ISA) - Co-founded with France
(B) Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) - Launched at the UN Climate Action Summit
(C) Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI) - Initiated with Japan and Australia
(D) Global Biofuel Alliance - Co-founded with China

37. Which policy framework is considered the predecessor to the "Act East" policy?
(A) Look West Policy
(B) Neighbourhood First Policy
(C) Look East Policy
(D) Non-Alignment Policy

38. If India successfully utilizes its diaspora to lobby for favourable policies in a host nation, this represents a case of:
(A) Coercive diplomacy through military pressure.
(B) Soft power translating into diplomatic leverage.
(C) Economic sanctions against a foreign government.
(D) Neo-colonialism through population displacement.

39. Who among the following is associated with formulating the doctrine that non-reciprocity should govern India's relations with its immediate neighbours?
(A) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
(B) Manmohan Singh
(C) Narendra Modi
(D) I.K. Gujral

40. Consider the following statements.
Statement I: The primary focus of SAARC is to foster military cooperation among South Asian nations.
Statement II: SAARC summits have frequently been stalled due to bilateral tensions between India and Pakistan.
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

41. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): India has increasingly focused on groupings like BIMSTEC over SAARC in recent years.
Reason (R): Pakistan's persistent obstructionism in SAARC has hindered regional connectivity and economic integration.
In the context of the above two statements,

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60. Consider the following statements.
Statement I: India's "Look East" policy was initiated in the 1990s as a response to the end of the Cold War and domestic economic reforms.
Statement II: The policy aimed exclusively at cultural assimilation with East Asian countries.
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

61. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Soft power has limitations in resolving hard security disputes like border conflicts.
Reason (R): Soft power relies on attraction and persuasion, which are often insufficient against physical aggression and territorial expansionism.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

62. Which diplomatic framework was established by India to engage with African countries collectively?
(A) African Union Bilateral Treaty
(B) South-South Coalition
(C) Afro-Asian Strategic Pact
(D) India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS)

63. Which of the following statements about India's climate change diplomacy is correct?
(A) India champions the principle of CBDR.
(B) India has committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2030.
(C) India has refused to ratify the Paris Agreement.
(D) India insists that developing nations should bear the primary cost.

64. Match the following items.
List I: (Concepts/Initiatives)
P. Connect Central Asia
Q. SAGAR
R. Act East
S. Neighbourhood First
List II: (Targeted Region)
1. Immediate bordering countries
2. Central Asian Republics
3. Indian Ocean Region
4. Southeast Asia and beyond
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

65. Identify the incorrect statement regarding India-China relations.
(A) The two countries fought a border war in 1962.
(B) China supports India's bid for a permanent UNSC seat.
(C) The Line of Actual Control remains undemarcated.
(D) Trade relations are characterized by a massive deficit.

66. The shift from a unipolar to a multipolar world order has caused India to:
(A) Adopt multi-alignment and issue-based partnerships.
(B) Retreat into strict isolationism from global affairs.
(C) Align exclusively with the Russian Federation.
(D) Disband its armed forces to pursue non-violence.

67. Consider the following statements about India's Look East Policy:
1. It was launched by Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao.
2. The initial focus was primarily on economic integration with ASEAN.
3. It was upgraded to Act East Policy in 2014.
4. It resulted in India joining the Warsaw Pact.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only

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1. The Nehruvian era was marked by the idealism of Non-Alignment.
2. The post-Cold War era saw India adapting to a unipolar world with economic liberalization.
3. The 1998 nuclear tests led to India's complete isolation without any subsequent recovery.
4. Recent years have seen a shift towards multi-alignment.
5. Soft power has become a formally recognized tool of Indian diplomacy.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
(B) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

51. All of the following are pillars of India's foreign policy towards the Middle East EXCEPT:
(A) Energy security
(B) Welfare of the Indian diaspora
(C) Interference in internal religious conflicts
(D) Enhancing trade and investment

52. What does the acronym ITEC stand for in the context of India's soft power?
(A) International Treaty on Economic Commerce
(B) Indian Trade and Export Council
(C) Institutional Technology and Education Commission
(D) Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation

53. Arrange the following Prime Ministerial tenures that shaped India's foreign policy in chronological order:
1. I.K. Gujral
2. Rajiv Gandhi
3. P.V. Narasimha Rao
4. Atal Bihari Vajpayee

(A) 2, 3, 1, 4
(B) 3, 2, 4, 1
(C) 1, 4, 2, 3
(D) 2, 1, 3, 4

54. To successfully implement the "Act East" policy, India must ensure competency in which of the following areas?
(A) Reducing all trade relations with ASEAN members.
(B) Developing physical infrastructure in the Northeast.
(C) Focusing solely on agricultural exports to Europe.
(D) Withdrawing from maritime security dialogues.

55. Which of the following is a correct statement regarding India's relationship with the World Trade Organization (WTO)?
(A) India advocates for the removal of all agricultural subsidies worldwide.
(B) India has withdrawn from the WTO's dispute settlement mechanism.
(C) India opposes the concept of Special and Differential Treatment (S&DT).
(D) India leads the G33 coalition for food security interests.

56. Identify the incorrect pair of a military exercise and the participating country with India.
(A) Indra - France
(B) Malabar - Quad Nations
(C) Yudh Abhyas - USA
(D) Surya Kiran - Nepal

57. Which framework provides the most appropriate overarching vision for India's current maritime strategy in the Indo-Pacific?
(A) Look West Policy
(B) Project Mausam
(C) Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)
(D) Gujral Doctrine

58. India successfully negotiates a complex trade deal by highlighting shared democratic values and historical ties, rather than offering financial incentives. This is a case of:
(A) Soft power diplomacy
(B) Gunboat diplomacy
(C) Coercive diplomacy
(D) Hard power projection

59. The Bandung Conference of 1955 was significant because it:
(A) Led directly to the creation of the United Nations.
(B) Resulted in the partition of India.
(C) Established the World Trade Organization.
(D) Laid the foundation for the Non-Aligned Movement.

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which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

42. India's "Connect Central Asia" policy is primarily driven by the need for:
(A) Enhancing energy security and strategic presence.
(B) Acquiring new territories.
(C) Establishing a single currency zone.
(D) Countering the influence of the European Union.

43. Which of the following correctly describes the "String of Pearls" theory?
(A) India's strategy to export jewelry globally.
(B) A US initiative to secure shipping lanes in the Pacific.
(C) An environmental program by the UN in South Asia.
(D) China's network of military facilities in the Indian Ocean.

44. Match the following items.
List I: (Agreements/Treaties)
P. Tashkent Declaration
Q. Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace
R. India-US Civil Nuclear Agreement
S. Panchsheel
List II: (Year)
1. 1954
2. 1966
3. 1971
4. 2008
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3

45. Which of the following is an incorrect statement about the Quad (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue)?
(A) It includes India, Japan, the US, and Australia.
(B) It promotes a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific.
(C) It is a formal military alliance with a mutual defense pact.
(D) It addresses issues like vaccine distribution and critical technologies.

46. The abrogation of Article 370 in India led to immediate diplomatic downgrading by which neighbouring country?
(A) Bangladesh
(B) Nepal
(C) Bhutan
(D) Pakistan

47. Consider the following statements about India's extended neighbourhood policy:
1. The Indian Ocean Region (IOR) is considered part of India's extended neighbourhood.
2. The SAGAR initiative aims at security and growth for all in the region.
3. India holds observer status in the Indian Ocean Commission.
4. India seeks to militarize the entire Indian Ocean to exclude other nations.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3 only
(B) 1, 3, and 4 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, and 4 only

48. Identify the correct pair representing a border dispute and the respective country involved with India.
(A) Kalapani - Bhutan
(B) Doklam - China/Bhutan tri-junction
(C) Sir Creek - Bangladesh
(D) Aksai Chin - Myanmar

49. A foreign policy analyst notes that India is heavily investing in the Chabahar Port. This indicates an application of India's strategic interest to:
(A) Compete directly with established major European ports.
(B) Bypass Pakistan to access Afghanistan and Central Asia.
(C) Restrict trade with various Middle Eastern countries.
(D) Develop a naval base against the United States.

50. Consider the following statements regarding the evolution of India's foreign policy:

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(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

68. Identify the correct pair regarding a prominent element of India's soft power and its international recognition.
(A) Ayurveda - World Trade Organization mandate
(B) Bollywood - Permanent seat in the UN Security Council
(C) IT sector - Exclusive control over global internet protocols
(D) Yoga - International Day of Yoga declared by the UN

69. When assessing the impact of the 1998 Pokhran II tests on India's foreign policy, one must conclude that it:
(A) Permanently destroyed India's relations with the US.
(B) Forced India to abandon its space program.
(C) Led to sanctions followed by de facto nuclear status.
(D) Resulted in India signing the NPT as a non-nuclear state.

70. Consider the following statements about India's engagement with major powers:
1. The 123 Agreement marked a watershed in India-US relations.
2. Russia remains a primary supplier of defense hardware to India.
3. India and Japan share a 'Special Strategic and Global Partnership'.
4. India has resolved all border disputes with China.
5. The EU is a critical partner for India in green technology.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
(B) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only

71. Which of the following is NOT an objective of India's foreign policy?
(A) Protecting the Indian diaspora abroad.
(B) Ensuring territorial integrity and sovereignty.
(C) Promoting a multipolar global order.
(D) Securing cross-border terrorism bases.

72. "Diaspora diplomacy" is best defined as:
(A) Utilizing expatriates to build bridges with host nations.
(B) Exiling political dissidents to foreign countries.
(C) Severing all ties with citizens living abroad.
(D) The mandatory conscription of foreign nationals.

73. Which of the following represents the most accurate reason for India prioritizing relations with Japan in the 21st century?
(A) Japan's willingness to supply nuclear weapons to India.
(B) Japan's geographical proximity to the Indian mainland.
(C) Shared values, Indo-Pacific vision, and investments.
(D) To counter the influence of the European Union in Asia.

74. If a diplomat is tasked with advancing India's interests in the Indian Ocean, which initiative should they competently leverage?
(A) Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)
(B) Project Snow Leopard
(C) Connect Central Asia Policy
(D) Look West Policy

75. Which statement accurately describes the evolution of India's stance on the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)?
(A) India has formally withdrawn from NAM.
(B) India considers NAM entirely obsolete and refuses to attend its summits.
(C) India seeks to convert NAM into a military alliance under its leadership.
(D) India has shifted from non-alignment to multi-alignment.

76. Identify the incorrect pair regarding regional organizations and India's participation.
(A) SAARC - Founding Member
(B) ASEAN - Full Member
(C) BIMSTEC - Founding Member
(D) SCO - Full Member

77. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of "Strategic Hedging" in India's foreign policy?

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(A) Lack of natural resources in South Asia.
(B) The absence of a shared cultural history.
(C) Excessive interference by the European Union.
(D) Geopolitical rivalry between India and Pakistan.

95. Which statement accurately reflects India's position on the UN Security Council (UNSC) reforms?
(A) India seeks UNSC expansion and a permanent seat.
(B) India opposes the addition of any new permanent members.
(C) India wants to abolish the UNSC entirely.
(D) India is satisfied with the current structure of the UNSC.

96. Identify the incorrect pair regarding border lines.
(A) Radcliffe Line - India and Pakistan
(B) Durand Line - India and Myanmar
(C) McMahon Line - India and China
(D) Line of Control - India and Pakistan

97. Which of the following best describes the significance of the "Indo-Pacific" concept for India?
(A) It limits India's strategic reach to the Bay of Bengal.
(B) It integrates the Indian and Pacific Oceans strategically.
(C) It is a strategy to completely encircle and blockade African ports.
(D) It restricts naval cooperation strictly to East Asian countries.

98. In response to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), India has:
(A) Refused to join, citing sovereignty concerns.
(B) Enthusiastically joined and funded the initiative.
(C) Disbanded its own connectivity projects.
(D) Petitioned the UN to make BRI mandatory for all Asian nations.

99. The concept of "Panchsheel" was first formulated in the context of bilateral relations between India and:
(A) The Soviet Union
(B) The United States
(C) China
(D) Pakistan

100. Consider the following statements regarding the Indian diaspora.
Statement I: India has one of the largest diaspora populations in the world, significantly contributing through remittances.
Statement II: The Indian government ignores the diaspora as they are considered foreign nationals without strategic value.
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

101. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): India has increasingly focused on groupings like BIMSTEC over SAARC in recent years.
Reason (R): Multi-alignment allows India to maximize its strategic autonomy and protect its national interests across various geopolitical divides.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

102. Which major power is India's partner in the joint development of the BrahMos cruise missile?
(A) United States
(B) Russia
(C) Israel
(D) France

103. Which of the following correctly describes India's "No First Use" (NFU) nuclear policy?
(A) India will never use nuclear weapons under any circumstances.

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(B) India's exit from the United Nations.
(C) Enhanced energy, investment, and strategic ties.
(D) A complete halt in diaspora remittances.

86. Which factor significantly caused the shift in India's foreign policy post-1991?
(A) The success of the SAARC economic union.
(B) The end of the Cold War and economic crisis.
(C) The signing of the Panchsheel treaty.
(D) The establishment of the Non-Aligned Movement.

87. Consider the following elements of India's soft power:
1. Yoga
2. Bollywood and Indian cinema
3. Democratic values and institutions
4. S-400 missile systems

Which of the above are correctly categorized as soft power?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

88. Identify the correct pair regarding India's engagement with multilateral banks.
(A) New Development Bank (NDB) - Associated with BRICS
(B) Asian Development Bank - Headquartered in New Delhi
(C) World Bank - Founded by SAARC
(D) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) - Excludes India

89. An Indian policy maker wishes to enhance connectivity with Central Asia while bypassing hostile territories. Which project should they actively promote?
(A) China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)
(B) Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership
(C) International North-South Transport Corridor
(D) BCIM (Bangladesh, China, India, Myanmar)

90. Consider the following statements about India's Neighbourhood First Policy:
1. It aims to improve physical connectivity in South Asia.
2. It prioritizes dialogue and cooperation with immediate neighbors.
3. It involves non-reciprocal assistance during crises, such as earthquakes in Nepal.
4. It requires neighboring countries to adopt India's constitution.
5. It is challenged by the growing footprint of China in South Asia.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only

91. All of the following are foundational defense agreements signed between India and the US, EXCEPT:
(A) LEMOA
(B) COMCASA
(C) BECA
(D) AUKUS

92. How is "Multilateralism" best defined in the context of global governance?
(A) The domination of global politics by a single superpower.
(B) A process involving multiple countries solving problems.
(C) Bilateral agreements strictly between two neighboring countries.
(D) The isolation of a country from international organizations.

93. Arrange the following developments in India's nuclear diplomacy in chronological order:
1. Signing of the Civil Nuclear Deal with the US
2. First Nuclear Test (Smiling Buddha)
3. Formation of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) in response to India's test
4. Announcement of India's official Nuclear Doctrine

(A) 2, 3, 4, 1
(B) 2, 4, 3, 1
(C) 3, 2, 1, 4
(D) 4, 1, 2, 3

94. A researcher analyzing the failure of SAARC to achieve deep economic integration must primarily account for:

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(A) Avoiding all international agreements to prevent obligations.
(B) Surrendering strategic assets to multilateral organizations.
(C) Balancing relations among major powers to maximize interests.
(D) Threatening nuclear war at every diplomatic impasse.

78. During the COVID-19 pandemic, India supplied "Covishield" and "Covaxin" to various developing countries. This is an example of:
(A) Coercive Diplomacy
(B) Economic Sanctions
(C) Hard Power
(D) Vaccine Diplomacy

79. The establishment of the "2+2 Dialogue" format indicates a deep strategic relationship. With which of the following countries does India NOT have a 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue?
(A) China
(B) United States
(C) Japan
(D) Russia

80. Consider the following statements regarding the Gujral Doctrine.
Statement I: It posits that India should not ask for reciprocity from neighbors like Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.
Statement II: It states that no South Asian country should allow its territory to be used against the interest of another country of the region.
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

81. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project is vital for India's Act East Policy.
Reason (R): It aims to provide an alternative route to India's landlocked Northeast region via Myanmar.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

82. Which core principle is central to the Panchsheel agreement?
(A) Mutual non-interference in internal affairs
(B) Unilateral disarmament of all border states
(C) Establishment of a regional common currency
(D) Rapid military expansionism in border areas

83. Which statement regarding India's relations with its extended neighbourhood is incorrect?
(A) India established the "Look West" policy to enhance relations with Middle Eastern countries.
(B) Central Asia is vital for India's energy security.
(C) The Chabahar port project is located in Pakistan.
(D) India engages with ASEAN to enhance its presence in Southeast Asia.

84. Match the following items.
List I: (Foreign Policy Events)
P. First NAM Summit
Q. India-China Border War
R. Pokhran-II Nuclear Tests
S. Launch of Act East Policy
List II: (Year)
1. 1962
2. 1961
3. 2014
4. 1998
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

85. The "Look West" policy of India has primarily resulted in:
(A) Deterioration of relations with Gulf nations.

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(B) India will use nuclear weapons first if conventional war breaks out.
(C) India delegates the decision to use nuclear weapons to the UN.
(D) India will only use nuclear weapons in retaliation.

104. Match the following items.
List I: (Diplomatic Term)
P. Soft Power
Q. Hard Power
R. Smart Power
S. Multi-alignment
List II: (Description)
1. Engaging with multiple overlapping global alliances
2. Combining coercion with persuasion
3. Use of military and economic threats
4. Attraction through culture and values
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

105. Which of the following statements about India's relation with the European Union (EU) is incorrect?
(A) The EU is India's third-largest trading partner.
(B) They have established a Trade and Technology Council (TTC).
(C) India and the EU have suspended all dialogues on human rights.
(D) Climate change and green transition are major areas of EU-India cooperation.

106. The elevation of the Quad dialogue to the summit level has primarily been caused by:
(A) Growing convergence on a free and open Indo-Pacific.
(B) The economic collapse of the European Union.
(C) India's decision to withdraw from the United Nations.
(D) The resolution of all border disputes in South Asia.

107. Consider the following statements about India-Japan relations:
1. Japan is heavily involved in India's High-Speed Rail project.
2. Both countries are part of the G4 nations seeking UNSC reform.
3. They conduct the bilateral maritime exercise 'JIMEX'.
4. India has a defense treaty mandating Japan to protect Indian borders.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

108. Identify the correct pair regarding India's developmental assistance programs.
(A) Line of Credit (LoC) - Exclusively for European nations
(B) ITEC - Capacity building for developing countries
(C) Vaccine Maitri - Supplying military hardware
(D) Operation Ganga - Building dams in Nepal

109. If an Indian diplomat emphasizes Buddhism's shared heritage during a visit to Sri Lanka or Southeast Asia, they are utilizing:
(A) Hard security alliances
(B) Economic coercion
(C) Cultural diplomacy
(D) Nuclear deterrence

110. Consider the following statements about India's energy diplomacy:
1. India is heavily dependent on imported crude oil.
2. India spearheaded the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
3. The Middle East remains a primary source of India's oil imports.
4. India seeks to diversify its energy sources by engaging with Russia and the US.
5. India has achieved 100% self-sufficiency in energy production.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
(B) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only

111. All of the following countries are members of BIMSTEC EXCEPT:
(A) Maldives

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(B) Bangladesh
(C) Myanmar
(D) Thailand

112. The "Gujral Doctrine" is best defined as a set of five principles guiding India's foreign policy towards:
(A) Major global powers like the US and Russia
(B) Immediate neighbours in South Asia
(C) The African continent
(D) Multilateral institutions like the UN

113. Which of the following is the best response by India to manage the complex geopolitics of the Middle East (West Asia)?
(A) Aligning exclusively with Israel against the Arab states.
(B) Maintaining a "De-hyphenation" policy with regional powers.
(C) Breaking diplomatic ties with Iran to please the US.
(D) Withdrawing the Indian diaspora from the region to avoid conflicts.

114. To assess India's competency in projecting naval power in the Indian Ocean, which initiative should be reviewed?
(A) Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR)
(B) Act East Policy
(C) Connect Central Asia
(D) Look West Policy

115. Which statement regarding India's position on terrorism is correct?
(A) India opposes the creation of any global framework against terrorism.
(B) India believes terrorism is a legitimate tool for statecraft.
(C) India advocates for the adoption of the CCIT at the UN.
(D) India restricts anti-terror cooperation to its immediate neighbours only.

116. Identify the incorrect pair regarding regional initiatives and their primary focus.
(A) SAGAR - Maritime security and cooperation
(B) BIMSTEC - Bay of Bengal regional cooperation
(C) BBIN - Motor vehicles agreement in South Asia
(D) SAARC - Establishing a single South Asian currency

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117. Which of the following is the most appropriate indicator of India's soft power influence in the digital age?
(A) The number of nuclear warheads in its arsenal.
(B) The total tonnage of crude oil imported.
(C) The global popularity of Indian cinema and digital content.
(D) The number of vetoes exercised in the UN.

118. In 2017, Indian and Chinese troops engaged in a standoff at the Doklam tri-junction. This situation primarily tested India's:
(A) Commitment to the Gujral Doctrine.
(B) Willingness to defend strategic interests and sovereignty.
(C) Ability to enforce the Indus Water Treaty.
(D) Policy of Look West.

119. Which international organization is headquartered in Gurugram, India?
(A) New Development Bank (NDB)
(B) World Health Organization (WHO)
(C) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
(D) International Solar Alliance (ISA)

120. Consider the following statements.
Statement I: The "Act East" policy expands the geographical scope of the "Look East" policy to include East Asia and the Indo-Pacific.
Statement II: ASEAN remains central to India's Act East policy.
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

121. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): India refused to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Reason (R): India considers the NPT to be discriminatory as it creates a divide between nuclear "haves" and "have-nots".

In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

122. The term "De-hyphenation" in India's foreign policy is most notably associated with its relations regarding:

(A) Israel and Palestine
(B) Russia and China
(C) US and UK
(D) Japan and South Korea

123. Which of the following accurately describes the primary mandate of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), of which India is a member?

(A) Promoting purely cultural exchanges in Europe.
(B) Regulating global maritime trade.
(C) Managing outer space exploration.
(D) Addressing regional security and Eurasian cooperation.

124. Match the following items.

List I: (Initiative)

P. Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI)
Q. Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)
R. Project Mausam
S. Vaccine Maitri

List II: (Objective)

1. Re-establishing maritime and cultural links in the Indian Ocean
2. Mitigating dependency on single manufacturing hubs
3. Building climate and disaster-resilient systems
4. Supplying COVID-19 vaccines globally

(A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2

125. Which of the following statements about the G20 is incorrect?

(A) It consists of 19 countries and the European Union.
(B) India hosted the G20 Summit for the first time in 2023.
(C) The G20 is primarily a collective defense alliance.
(D) The African Union was admitted as a permanent member during India's presidency.

126. The growing integration of the Indian economy with global markets since 1991 has caused India's foreign policy to become:

(A) Completely isolationist to protect domestic industries.
(B) Solely focused on territorial expansion.
(C) Heavily reliant on foreign military aid for survival.
(D) Pragmatic, focusing on economic and investment diplomacy.

127. Consider the following statements about India's Soft Power:

1. ICCR (Indian Council for Cultural Relations) plays a key role in promoting India's culture abroad.
2. The global popularity of Indian cuisine contributes to its soft power.
3. Soft power explicitly relies on economic sanctions.
4. India's historical legacy as the birthplace of Buddhism enhances its soft power in Asia.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

128. Identify the correct pair regarding a foreign policy concept and its meaning.

(A) Strategic Autonomy - Surrendering decision making to an alliance
(B) Paradiplomacy - State government involvement in global relations
(C) Track II Diplomacy - Formal government-to-government negotiations
(D) Hard Power - Cultural exchanges

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networks.
(B) Subordinating national interests to UN directives.
(C) Independent decision-making unaffected by external pressure.
(D) Automatically adopting the policies of the largest superpower.

164. Match the following items.
List I: (Diplomatic Term)
P. De-hyphenation
Q. String of Pearls
R. Connect Central Asia
S. Act East
List II: (Relevant Country/Region)
1. China
2. Israel and Palestine
3. ASEAN
4. Central Asian Republics
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

165. Which of the following statements regarding the Quad is incorrect?
(A) It stands for the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue.
(B) Its members include India, the US, Japan, and Australia.
(C) It is an Asian NATO with binding mutual defense pacts.
(D) It addresses non-traditional security threats like climate change and supply chain resilience.

166. A major geopolitical effect of India acquiring the S-400 missile system from Russia was:
(A) The immediate expulsion of India from the UN.
(B) The threat of US sanctions under CAATSA legislation.
(C) The signing of a peace treaty with Pakistan.
(D) A complete halt in India's domestic missile program.

167. Consider the following statements about India's Soft Power:
1. It is a modern concept completely absent in ancient Indian history.
2. The Indian diaspora plays a negligible role in promoting it.
3. Initiatives like 'Vaccine Maitri' enhance India's soft power.
4. The global spread of Yoga is a prime example of Indian soft power.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 3 and 4 only
(C) 1, 3, and 4 only
(D) 2, 3, and 4 only

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168. Identify the correct pair regarding India's participation in international groupings.
(A) IORA (Indian Ocean Rim Association) - Full Member
(B) G7 - Full Member
(C) ASEAN - Full Member
(D) APEC - Full Member

169. If India wishes to assert its presence in the Arctic region, which organization must it competently engage with?
(A) The Antarctic Treaty System
(B) ASEAN
(C) The Arctic Council (as an Observer state)
(D) African Union

170. Consider the following statements regarding India's relations with the Extended Neighbourhood:
1. India established the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) to enhance connectivity with Russia and Central Asia.
2. India considers the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) as its primary area of maritime interest.
3. India has zero engagement with the Pacific Island nations.
4. The Chabahar port in Iran is strategically crucial for India to bypass Pakistan.
5. India engages with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) for energy and diaspora-related issues.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
(B) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only

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138. The implementation of the Indus Water Treaty (1960) serves as a case study for:
(A) Successful resource-sharing and conflict management.
(B) The failure of international mediation.
(C) Unilateral abrogation of treaties by powerful states.
(D) The complete privatization of transboundary rivers.

139. Who is considered the architect of India's Non-Aligned Policy?
(A) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
(B) Mahatma Gandhi
(C) B.R. Ambedkar
(D) Jawaharlal Nehru

140. Consider the following statements.
Statement I: India's Look East policy was initially driven more by economic imperatives than security concerns.
Statement II: The Act East policy incorporates significant strategic and security dimensions alongside economic ones.
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

141. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Soft power has increasingly become a critical tool in India's diplomatic arsenal.
Reason (R): Cultural exports, historical civilizational links, and democratic credentials naturally attract goodwill and enhance a country's global image.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

142. The "Ashgabat Agreement" is related to India's interests in:
(A) Resolving the border dispute with China.
(B) Building military bases in the South China Sea.
(C) Promoting green energy in African nations.
(D) Connectivity with Central Asia and the Persian Gulf.

143. Which of the following best states the "String of Pearls" concept and India's response to it?
(A) It refers to Chinese strategic outposts; India responds with SAGAR.
(B) It refers to cultural exchange programs; India responds by hosting festivals.
(C) It refers to US military bases; India responds by joining the SCO.
(D) It refers to a series of ASEAN free trade zones; India responds by joining RCEP.

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144. Match the following items.
List I: (Policy/Initiative)
P. ITEC
Q. Project Mausam
R. SAGAR
S. Neighbourhood First
List II: (Key Area of Focus)
1. Maritime security in the Indian Ocean
2. Cultural and historical maritime linkages
3. Priority to immediate borders
4. Technical and economic capacity building
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(B) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(C) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

145. Which of the following statements regarding the BRICS grouping is incorrect?
(A) The acronym BRIC was coined by Jim O'Neill.
(B) BRICS operates as a binding mutual defense treaty.
(C) South Africa joined the group in 2010.
(D) BRICS countries represent over 40% of the world's population.

146. A primary cause of the strained bilateral relations between India and Canada in recent times has been:

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

181. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) has gained prominence in India's foreign policy.
Reason (R): SAARC has largely become dysfunctional due to persistent bilateral tensions between India and Pakistan.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

182. Which of the following is a primary objective of India's participation in the G20?
(A) To establish a global military alliance.
(B) To reform global governance and represent the Global South.
(C) To create a single global currency.
(D) To dismantle the World Trade Organization.

183. Which of the following correctly outlines the "Three Mutuals" frequently cited by India in its relations with China?
(A) Mutual disrespect, mutual conflict, and economic destruction.
(B) Mutual respect, mutual sensitivity, and mutual interests.
(C) Mutual disarmament, mutual withdrawal, and mutual alignment.
(D) Mutual sovereign equality and regional non-interference.

184. Match the following items.
List I: (Foreign Policy Phase)
P. 1947-1962
Q. 1971-1991
R. 1991-2014
S. Post-2014
List II: (Key Characteristic)
1. Optimistic Non-Alignment
2. Pragmatism and Economic Diplomacy
3. Pro-Active and Assertive Multi-alignment
4. Complex Non-Alignment (Tilt towards USSR)
(A) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3
(B) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(D) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1

185. Which of the following statements about the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is incorrect?
(A) NAM was formally established in 1961.
(B) Jawaharlal Nehru was a key architect of NAM.
(C) NAM requires its members to form military pacts.
(D) NAM focuses on anti-colonialism and peaceful co-existence.

186. The signing of the LEMOA (Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement) with the US caused:
(A) Enhanced interoperability and logistical support.
(B) A breakdown in India-US relations.
(C) India's expulsion from the UN.
(D) Complete cessation of defense imports from Russia.

187. Consider the following statements about India's Soft Power initiatives:
1. Ayurveda and traditional medicine are promoted globally by the Ministry of AYUSH.
2. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) establishes Indian cultural centres abroad.
3. India uses Soft Power to explicitly threaten smaller nations.
4. Bollywood creates a cultural footprint for India in regions like the Middle East and Africa.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3 only
(B) 1, 2, and 4 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

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media outreach.
(B) Covert military operations.
(C) Economic sanctions against hostile nations.
(D) Trade embargoes on essential goods.

155. Which of the following statements about the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is correct?
(A) India is a founding member of the SCO.
(B) Promoting free trade in North America.
(C) India has refused to participate in the SCO's Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS).
(D) India and Pakistan joined the SCO simultaneously in 2017.

156. Identify the incorrect pair regarding India's foreign policy platforms.
(A) Raisina Dialogue - Multilateral conference on geopolitics and geoeconomics
(B) IISS Shangri-La Dialogue - Exclusively organized by the Indian government
(C) Delhi Dialogue - Forum for ASEAN-India relations
(D) Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) - Maritime security cooperation

157. Which of the following is the best example of India employing "Smart Power"?
(A) Threatening to cut off water supply to a neighbour.
(B) Banning all foreign movies in India.
(C) Combining military capacity with development and culture.
(D) Withdrawing all ambassadors from a hostile region.

158. The 1971 Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation was a response to a specific case of geopolitical pressure primarily emanating from:
(A) European Union trade embargoes.
(B) African nations forming a coalition against India.
(C) Japanese military expansion in the Indian Ocean.
(D) The US-China-Pakistan axis during the 1971 war.

159. The "Chennai Connect" refers to the informal summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the leader of which country?
(A) China
(B) United States
(C) Russia
(D) Sri Lanka

160. Consider the following statements.
Statement I: The "Look East" policy focused heavily on historical and cultural ties rather than immediate economic integration.
Statement II: The "Act East" policy expands engagement to include security cooperation and institutional partnerships in the Indo-Pacific.
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

161. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): India has not joined the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
Reason (R): The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project of the BRI, passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), violating India's sovereignty.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

162. Which of the following treaties was signed to share the waters of the Ganges River between India and Bangladesh?
(A) Farakka Barrage Treaty
(B) Mahakali Treaty
(C) Indus Water Treaty
(D) Teesta Water Agreement

163. The concept of "Strategic Autonomy" in India's foreign policy essentially means:
(A) Complete isolation from global trade

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(C) A belief that free trade is fundamentally immoral.
(D) ASEAN's refusal to admit India as a dialogue partner.

199. The "Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project" connects Kolkata with which country?
(A) Bangladesh
(B) Thailand
(C) Sri Lanka
(D) Myanmar

200. Consider the following statements.
Statement I: India's strategic partnerships with the US and Russia are mutually exclusive.
Statement II: India maintains strong ties with both nations through issue-based diplomacy.
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

201. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The diaspora acts as a vital asset for India's foreign policy.
Reason (R): They influence host country policies in India's favour and contribute significantly through remittances and investments.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

202. Which Indian Prime Minister initiated the "Look East" policy?
(A) P.V. Narasimha Rao
(B) Indira Gandhi
(C) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
(D) Manmohan Singh

203. Which of the following statements about the Quad is correct?
(A) It is a binding military treaty.
(B) It was originally founded in the 1990s.
(C) China is an observer state in the Quad.
(D) It is an informal forum for a free Indo-Pacific.

204. Match the following items.
List I: (Strategic Document/Initiative)
P. SAGAR
Q. CDRI
R. iCET
S. CCIT
List II: (Core Focus)
1. Critical and Emerging Technologies
2. International Terrorism
3. Disaster Resilient Infrastructure
4. Indian Ocean Security
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(C) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4

205. Which of the following statements regarding the India-US Civil Nuclear Agreement is incorrect?
(A) It was initiated in 2005 and signed into law in 2008.
(B) It required India to separate its civil and military nuclear facilities.
(C) It forced India to sign the NPT as a non-nuclear state.
(D) It allowed India access to global civilian nuclear technology despite being a non-NPT signatory.

206. A major cause for the stagnation of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) has been:
(A) Lack of financial funding from the UN.
(B) The dissolution of all member states.
(C) Complete economic self-sufficiency of all South Asian countries.
(D) Bilateral hostility, particularly between India and Pakistan.

207. Consider the following statements regarding India's relations with the European Union:
1. The EU and India established a Trade and Technology Council (TTC).
2. The EU is a major destination for Indian IT

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171. All of the following are true about the "Gujral Doctrine" EXCEPT:
(A) It advocates non-reciprocity with smaller neighbours.
(B) It emphasizes non-interference in the internal affairs of neighbours.
(C) It seeks to build trust in South Asia.
(D) It applies to relations with major powers like the US.

172. "Geoeconomics" in the context of India's foreign policy refers to:
(A) Using geographic features to build military bases.
(B) Using economic tools to advance geopolitical objectives.
(C) Studying the soil geography of neighbouring nations.
(D) Replacing all political dialogue with free trade.

173. Arrange the following major India-China border agreements/events in chronological order:
1. Panchsheel Agreement
2. Galwan Valley Standoff
3. Sino-Indian War
4. Agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquility along the LAC

(A) 1, 3, 4, 2
(B) 3, 1, 2, 4
(C) 1, 4, 3, 2
(D) 4, 1, 3, 2

174. Which of the following is the most appropriate reason for India's push to diversify its defense imports away from a single supplier?
(A) To bankrupt the single supplier.
(B) Because indigenous production has entirely ceased.
(C) To comply with UN mandates banning single-supplier dependency.
(D) To mitigate risks and enhance strategic autonomy.

175. Which of the following correctly describes the "Mandal Theory" in ancient Indian diplomacy, often cited as a historical root of foreign policy?
(A) A neighbor is a natural enemy and their neighbor a friend.
(B) It advocates for immediate surrender to superior forces.
(C) It focuses purely on maritime trade expansion.
(D) It mandates complete non-violence in all interactions.

176. Identify the incorrect pair regarding India's engagement in West Asia.
(A) I2U2 Group - Includes India, Israel, UAE, and the US
(B) Abraham Accords - Opposed by India
(C) Chabahar Port - Located in Iran
(D) De-hyphenation - Separate relations with Israel and Palestine

177. Which is the best description of India's "Neighbourhood First" policy?
(A) Isolating immediate neighbors to prevent cross-border terrorism.
(B) Prioritizing engagement with neighbors for integration.
(C) Focusing exclusively on East Asian countries.
(D) Demanding territorial concessions from neighboring nations.

178. The case of India providing significant lines of credit and developmental assistance to African nations under the IAFS framework demonstrates:
(A) South-South Cooperation and capacity building.
(B) Neo-colonial exploitation.
(C) Military expansionism.
(D) Strict isolationism.

179. Which country is India's largest trading partner as of recent geopolitical realignments (2022-2023)?
(A) Russia
(B) United Kingdom
(C) United States
(D) Japan

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180. Consider the following statements.
Statement I: India supports the realization of a sovereign, independent, and viable State of Palestine.
Statement II: India refuses to maintain any diplomatic relations with Israel.
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

(A) Activities of pro-Khalistan extremist elements in Canada.
(B) Disputes over trade tariffs on agricultural goods.
(C) Competition for permanent membership in the UN Security Council.
(D) Border skirmishes in the Arctic region.

147. Consider the following statements about India's extended neighbourhood:
1. The Gulf region is critical for India's energy security and diaspora remittances.
2. India shares a land border with Afghanistan, which technically makes it an immediate neighbour.
3. Southeast Asia is considered part of the extended neighbourhood under the Act East policy.
4. India has no strategic interest in the island nations of the Western Indian Ocean.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3 only
(B) 1, 3, and 4 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, and 4 only

148. Identify the correct pair regarding India's diplomatic engagement and its focus area.
(A) India-Nordic Summit - Engagement with Latin American countries
(B) IBSA - Security alliance in Southeast Asia
(C) Mekong-Ganga Cooperation - Trade with Central Asian Republics
(D) Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) - Pacific engagement

149. An analyst reviewing India's decision to conduct surgical strikes across the Line of Control (LoC) in 2016 would conclude that it represents an application of:
(A) Strict Non-alignment principles.
(B) Absolute Soft Power diplomacy.
(C) Strategic Restraint giving way to Pre-emptive Deterrence.
(D) The non-reciprocity tenets of the Gujral Doctrine.

150. Consider the following statements regarding India's interaction with Major Powers:
1. India and the US conduct the 'Yudh Abhyas' military exercise.
2. Russia is a partner in India's Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project.
3. India and China clash over the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
4. Japan partners with India on the Asia-Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC).
5. The EU is completely irrelevant to India's technology and data privacy regulations.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
(B) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(C) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

151. Which of the following is an exception to the general success of India's foreign policy in securing multilateral consensus?
(A) Declaration of the International Day of Yoga.
(B) Formation of the International Solar Alliance.
(C) G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration.
(D) Adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

152. "Track II Diplomacy" is best defined as:
(A) Unofficial, non-governmental dialogues for conflict resolution.
(B) Formal negotiations between heads of state.
(C) Using military threats to achieve diplomatic goals.
(D) Trade negotiations conducted exclusively through the WTO.

153. Which approach is most appropriate for describing India's current diplomatic strategy to secure critical technologies and supply chains?
(A) Relying solely on indigenous development without any foreign interaction.
(B) Depending entirely on China for technology transfers.
(C) Forging strategic technology partnerships like the iCET.
(D) Boycotting all international technology regimes.

154. An Indian policymaker wants to counter narrative warfare and improve India's image abroad. Competently, they should focus on leveraging:
(A) Public diplomacy, cultural centres, and

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188. Identify the correct pair regarding India's engagement with major powers.
(A) S-400 Triumf - Imported from the US
(B) Rafale fighter jets - Imported from France
(C) C-17 Globemaster - Imported from Russia
(D) BrahMos missile - Jointly developed with Israel

189. A diplomat is attempting to increase India's footprint in the Pacific Island nations. Which framework should they competently utilize?
(A) SAARC
(B) Connect Central Asia
(C) FIPIC (Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation)
(D) Gulf Cooperation Council

190. Consider the following statements regarding the evolution of India's Foreign Policy:
1. The 1991 economic reforms necessitated a shift towards geoeconomics.
2. The Pokhran II tests established India as a nuclear weapons state.
3. India has never engaged in a military conflict since 1971.
4. The transition from Look East to Act East emphasized strategic partnerships.
5. India has consistently championed the cause of the Global South.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
(B) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only

191. All of the following are mechanisms for dispute resolution established by the Indus Water Treaty EXCEPT:
(A) UN Security Council intervention
(B) Permanent Indus Commission
(C) Neutral Expert
(D) Court of Arbitration

192. "Multi-alignment" is best defined as:
(A) A policy of isolationism.
(B) Maintaining parallel relations with competing global powers.
(C) Submitting to the dictates of a multilateral organization.
(D) Signing mutual defense treaties with every country in the world.

193. Which of the following is the most appropriate reason for India emphasizing the "Global South" narrative during its G20 presidency?
(A) To start a new Cold War with the Global North.
(B) To ensure developing nations' challenges are prioritized.
(C) To withdraw from the G20 grouping.
(D) To claim territorial rights over Antarctica.

194. Which scenario best exemplifies the application of India's "Neighbourhood First" policy?
(A) Extending economic and material assistance to Sri Lanka.
(B) Imposing high tariffs on goods from Bhutan.
(C) Refusing transit rights to Nepal.
(D) Cancelling all infrastructural projects in Bangladesh.

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195. Which of the following statements about India's role in the UN is correct?
(A) India opposes the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
(B) India's financial contribution to the UN is the highest in the world.
(C) India has been a non-permanent UNSC member eight times.
(D) India has withdrawn from UN peacekeeping missions.

196. Identify the incorrect pair regarding international platforms.
(A) Raisina Dialogue - India
(B) Shangri-La Dialogue - Singapore
(C) Munich Security Conference - Germany
(D) Delhi Dialogue - United States

197. Which of the following best describes the core principle of India's Nuclear Doctrine?
(A) Pre-emptive nuclear strikes
(B) Massive conventional buildup to replace nuclear weapons
(C) Credible Minimum Deterrence
(D) Tactical nuclear warfare on the battlefield

198. India's refusal to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) was primarily caused by:
(A) Pressure from the United States.
(B) Concerns that cheap imports would harm domestic industries.

129. When analyzing the geopolitical dynamics of the Indo-Pacific, India's active participation in the Quad is best understood as a strategy to:
(A) Dominate global agricultural trade.
(B) Counterbalance unilateral attempts to alter the status quo.
(C) Isolate Russia economically.
(D) Dismantle the ASEAN organization.

130. Consider the following statements regarding India's Neighbourhood First Policy:
1. It aims to build mutually beneficial relationships with all border-sharing countries.
2. The granting of transit rights to Bangladesh is a practical manifestation of this policy.
3. It guarantees that India will intervene militarily in the internal elections of neighbouring countries.
4. Currency swap agreements have been used under this policy to help neighbours facing economic crises.
5. Cross-border energy pipelines, like the Motihari-Amlekhgunj pipeline, are key components.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
(B) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only

131. Which of the following treaties is an exception to the general trend of water disputes in South Asia, having survived multiple wars between the signatory nations?
(A) Teesta River Treaty
(B) Mahakali Treaty
(C) Indus Water Treaty
(D) Farakka Barrage Agreement

132. How is "Diaspora" defined in the context of international relations?
(A) A formal diplomatic mission sent to another country.
(B) The process of naturalizing foreign citizens.
(C) A military unit stationed abroad.
(D) People of a specific origin living outside their home country.

133. Arrange the following international groupings in chronological order of their establishment:
1. SAARC
2. BRICS
3. BIMSTEC
4. Quad (initial formulation)

(A) 1, 3, 2, 4
(B) 1, 2, 3, 4
(C) 3, 1, 4, 2
(D) 1, 3, 4, 2

134. For an analyst to evaluate the effectiveness of India's 'Act East' policy in the security domain, they should examine:
(A) The frequency of Bollywood movie releases in Southeast Asia.
(B) The extent of defense exports and maritime exercises.
(C) The volume of agricultural imports from Europe.
(D) The number of Indian tourists visiting Australia.

135. Which of the following is a correct statement about India's relations with the United States?
(A) India and the US have no shared forums in the Indo-Pacific.
(B) Trade between the two countries has steadily declined over the last decade.
(C) The US opposes India's membership in the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR).
(D) The US has declared India as a "Major Defense Partner".

136. Identify the incorrect pair regarding India's connectivity projects.
(A) Hambantota Port - Managed directly by the Indian Navy
(B) Sittwe Port - Myanmar
(C) Chabahar Port - Iran
(D) Agalega Islands facility - Mauritius

137. Which of the following is the most appropriate characterization of India's stance during the Russia-Ukraine conflict (as of 2023)?
(A) Providing direct military aid to Ukraine.
(B) Joining Western economic sanctions against Russia.
(C) Maintaining strategic neutrality and pursuing dialogue.
(D) Formally declaring a military alliance with Russia against NATO.

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and software exports.
3. India fully adopts EU data privacy laws without modifications.
4. Negotiations for a Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) have faced hurdles over tariffs and market access.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

208. Identify the correct pair representing an international treaty and India's position on it.
(A) NPT - Signatory
(B) Paris Climate Agreement - Signatory
(C) CTBT - Signatory
(D) UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) - Non-signatory

209. To navigate the complexities of global climate negotiations competently, India must balance its developmental needs with global emission targets. Which principle does India heavily rely on to defend this stance?
(A) Absolute zero emissions by 2025.
(B) Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR-RC).
(C) Unilateral withdrawal from climate treaties.
(D) Total cessation of industrial activity.

210. Consider the following statements about India's major power relations:
1. India and Russia hold annual bilateral summits.
2. The US views India as a crucial partner in its Indo-Pacific strategy.
3. India has fully endorsed China's Global Security Initiative (GSI).
4. Japan is a key partner for India in developing the Northeast region.
5. France strongly supports India's bid for a permanent UNSC seat.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
(B) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only

211. All of the following are recognized forms of India's soft power EXCEPT:
(A) Buddhist heritage circuits
(B) Indian IT professionals abroad
(C) Coercive trade embargoes
(D) Bollywood cinema

212. What does "Paradiplomacy" mean in the context of India's foreign policy?
(A) Secret diplomatic operations.
(B) Participation of state governments in global relations.
(C) Diplomacy conducted purely by military generals.
(D) Unofficial negotiations between civil society groups.

213. Arrange the following international climate and environment initiatives in which India is involved, in chronological order of their launch:
1. International Solar Alliance (ISA)
2. Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)
3. Global Biofuel Alliance

(A) 1, 2, 3
(B) 2, 1, 3
(C) 1, 3, 2
(D) 3, 2, 1

214. Which is the most appropriate description of India's current strategy regarding UN Peacekeeping?
(A) India has withdrawn completely from all missions.
(B) India is a major troop contributor seeking greater say.
(C) India only contributes financial aid, not troops.
(D) India mandates that all peacekeepers must be Indian.

215. Which of the following statements about the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB) is correct?
(A) It is headquartered in New Delhi.
(B) Its primary purpose is to fund military operations.
(C) It only lends money to China and Russia.
(D) It provides financing for infrastructure in emerging economies.

216. Identify the incorrect pair regarding border agreements/lines.

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(A) Durand Line - India and Nepal
(B) Line of Control (LoC) - India and Pakistan
(C) Radcliffe Line - India and Bangladesh
(D) Line of Actual Control (LAC) - India and China

217. Which of the following best states the objective of the "Act East" policy?
(A) To purely promote cultural tourism in Southeast Asia.
(B) To form a military block against the US.
(C) To enhance economic, strategic, and cultural relations.
(D) To isolate India from global trade routes.

218. The "Wuhan Spirit" and "Chennai Connect" were informal summits aimed at:
(A) Stabilizing relations following border tensions like Doklam.
(B) Finalizing a free trade agreement with China.
(C) Declaring war on neighboring states.
(D) Establishing a new Asian currency.

219. The concept of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" (The world is one family) was heavily emphasized during India's presidency of which organization?
(A) SAARC
(B) ASEAN
(C) NATO
(D) G20

220. Consider the following statements.
Statement I: India considers the Indian Ocean Region as its immediate maritime neighbourhood.
Statement II: The SAGAR initiative is designed to exclusively secure military dominance in the Indian Ocean.
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

221. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): India has deepened its strategic partnership with France in recent years.
Reason (R): France has consistently supported India on critical issues like nuclear technology access, space cooperation, and counter-terrorism.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

222. The "Ashgabat Agreement" facilitates transit and transport between:
(A) India and South America
(B) East Asia and North America
(C) Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa
(D) Central Asia and the Persian Gulf

223. Which of the following is a key objective of India's engagement with the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)?
(A) To enhance counter-terrorism through RATS and resources.
(B) To completely sever ties with the West.
(C) To establish a military alliance against NATO.
(D) To promote English as the only working language of the region.

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224. Match the following items.
List I: (Strategic Partnership Concept)
P. Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership
Q. Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership
R. Special Strategic and Global Partnership
S. Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (since 1998)
List II: (Country)
1. Japan
2. United States
3. Russia
4. France
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(C) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

225. Which of the following statements about India's diaspora diplomacy is incorrect?
(A) The Ministry of External Affairs handles diaspora affairs through the OIA division.
(B) Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) have national voting rights.
(C) Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated to mark the community's contribution.
(D) The diaspora serves as a crucial bridge for technology transfer and investment.

226. The shift towards "Multi-alignment" in Indian foreign policy is primarily caused by:
(A) The need to maximize interests in a multipolar world.
(B) The collapse of the global economy.
(C) Direct orders from the UN Security Council.
(D) The failure of the Indian military.

227. Consider the following statements regarding the Quad and AUKUS:
1. India is a member of the Quad but not AUKUS.
2. Quad focuses on non-military security in the Indo-Pacific.
3. AUKUS is explicitly a military technology pact involving nuclear submarines.
4. India perceives AUKUS as a direct threat to its sovereignty.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

228. Identify the correct pair regarding India's policy initiatives and their geographic focus.
(A) Look West - Japan
(B) Connect Central Asia - Southeast Asia
(C) SAGAR - Pacific Ocean
(D) Act Far East - Russia

229. If an Indian policymaker wants to bypass Pakistan for trade access to Afghanistan, which diplomatic and infrastructural project should they competently utilize?
(A) The TAPI Pipeline
(B) The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)
(C) The Chabahar Port Project in Iran
(D) The Karakoram Highway

230. Consider the following statements about India's Soft Power tools:
1. Ayurveda is globally promoted to enhance cultural influence.
2. The export of COVID-19 vaccines (Vaccine Maitri) was a soft power exercise.
3. Soft power explicitly avoids the use of military coercion.
4. India's democratic setup is considered a soft power asset by the West.
5. Soft power alone is sufficient to resolve territorial disputes like the LAC standoff.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only

231. All of the following are foundational defense agreements signed between India and the United States EXCEPT:
(A) GSOMIA
(B) LEMOA
(C) BECA
(D) INF Treaty

232. "Credible Minimum Deterrence" is best defined as:
(A) Retaining nuclear capacity to deter a first strike.
(B) Having a larger nuclear arsenal than all enemies combined.
(C) Completely dismantling the nuclear arsenal to show peaceful intent.
(D) Relying on conventional weapons while bluffing about nuclear capabilities.

233. Arrange the following major India-Pakistan agreements in chronological order:
1. Lahore Declaration
2. Shimla Agreement
3. Tashkent Declaration
4. Indus Water Treaty

(A) 4, 3, 2, 1
(B) 3, 4, 1, 2
(C) 4, 2, 3, 1
(D) 2, 3, 4, 1

234. For an analyst reviewing India's engagement with international organizations, the pursuit

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multi-alignment, ensuring that relations with these respective major powers remain mutually beneficial and strategically insulated from external bilateral frictions.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

261. In contemporary geopolitics, the relationship with the United States has increasingly focused on which of the following areas?
(A) Targeted agricultural trade and maritime security
(B) Historical preservation and joint space exploration
(C) Military integration and shared defense budgeting
(D) Strategic convergence and maritime cooperation

262. What is identified as the cornerstone of the traditional ties with Russia in the strategic policy brief?
(A) Technological partnerships and maritime cooperation
(B) Sustained cooperation in defense and energy sectors
(C) Shared democratic institutions and cultural exchanges
(D) Multilateral trade agreements and economic sanctions

263. Why is navigating relations between the US and Russia described as a delicate diplomatic balancing act?
(A) Because neither power has an interest in the Asian theatre
(B) Because both powers share identical foreign policy objectives
(C) Because major powers often hold competing global interests
(D) Because regional organizations prohibit bilateral engagements

264. What type of foreign policy approach is necessitated when managing the nuances of engagements with these major powers?
(A) A highly idealistic approach
(B) A strictly isolationist approach
(C) A purely coercive approach
(D) A highly pragmatic approach

265. According to the scholars in the brief, what does successful engagement with both the US and Russia underscore the necessity of?
(A) Strategic multi-alignment
(B) Absolute non-alignment
(C) Exclusive bilateral treaties
(D) Regional economic protectionism

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A comprehensive geopolitical analysis recently scrutinized a distinctive scenario involving India and major powers, with a dedicated focus on China, Japan, and the European Union (EU). The case study systematically unpacked the diverse strategies utilized to navigate relations between India and major powers in the Asian and European theatres. Regarding China, the analysis detailed how interactions are characterized by a complex mixture of economic interdependence and unresolved border complexities, representing a highly challenging aspect of India and major powers dynamics. In sharp contrast, the evaluation of ties with Japan revealed a rapidly expanding strategic and economic partnership, driven by shared regional objectives and infrastructural development initiatives. Furthermore, the assessment of engagement with the EU highlighted a growing emphasis on trade negotiations, climate change collaboration, and normative alignment. The scenario demonstrated that the multifaceted relationships between India and major powers such as China, Japan, and the EU require distinctly tailored diplomatic responses. Analysts ultimately determined that effectively managing interactions with these specific major powers—balancing the competitive elements with China alongside the cooperative frameworks with Japan and the EU—is critically essential for achieving long-term strategic and economic goals.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

266. How are the diplomatic interactions with China characterized in the geopolitical analysis?
(A) Characterized by complete economic isolation and frequent military conflicts
(B) Economic interdependence and unresolved border complexities
(C) Focused on cultural exchanges and shared

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243. Which of the following accurately describes India's approach to the World Trade Organization (WTO)?
(A) India seeks to disband the WTO entirely.
(B) India always aligns with the policies of developed nations.
(C) India advocates for the food security rights of developing nations.
(D) India boycotts all WTO ministerial conferences.

244. Match the following items.
List I: (Foreign Policy Era/Concept)
P. Non-Alignment
Q. Non-Reciprocal Neighbourhood Policy
R. Act East Policy
S. Genuine Non-Alignment
List II: (Key Proponent)
1. Narendra Modi
2. I.K. Gujral
3. Jawaharlal Nehru
4. Morarji Desai
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3

245. Which of the following statements about India's extended neighbourhood in Central Asia is incorrect?
(A) India views Central Asia as part of its civilizational neighbourhood.
(B) Uranium procurement is a key aspect of India's engagement with the region.
(C) India shares a direct physical land border with all five Central Asian Republics.
(D) India conducts the India-Central Asia Summit to enhance regional cooperation.

246. The transition from pure idealism to pragmatic multi-alignment in Indian foreign policy was fundamentally caused by:
(A) The invention of the internet.
(B) The end of the Cold War and economic imperatives.
(C) The success of the Non-Aligned Movement in eliminating global poverty.
(D) A UN mandate forcing India to change its policies.

247. Consider the following statements regarding the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):
1. It focuses heavily on Eurasian security.
2. The Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) is a core component.
3. India uses the SCO to engage with Central Asian Republics.
4. Membership in the SCO prevents India from joining the Quad.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

248. Identify the correct pair regarding India's bilateral dialogues.
(A) 2+2 Dialogue with Japan - Involves Foreign and Defence Ministers
(B) 2+2 Dialogue with US - Involves Finance and Commerce Ministers
(C) 2+2 Dialogue with Russia - Involves Health and Education Ministers
(D) 2+2 Dialogue with Australia - Involves Sports and Culture Ministers

249. To competently secure energy supplies while maintaining strategic autonomy amid the Russia-Ukraine conflict, India implemented which of the following approaches?
(A) Imposing a total ban on Russian oil.
(B) Ceasing all oil imports entirely and shifting instantly to 100% solar power.
(C) Procuring Russian crude while managing Western relations.
(D) Joining Western military coalitions.

250. Consider the following statements regarding the role of soft power in India's foreign policy:
1. Soft power alone is sufficient to protect national borders.
2. The Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) program builds goodwill in developing nations.
3. India's democratic traditions enhance its soft power appeal globally.
4. Diaspora engagement is a critical channel for projecting soft power.
5. Soft power is entirely irrelevant in the 21st-century multipolar world.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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(A) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
(B) 2, 3, and 4 only
(C) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only
(D) 2, 3, 4, and 5 only

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In a recent diplomatic summit focusing on the foundational framework of statecraft, analysts evaluated the evolution of the objectives and principles of India's foreign policy. The case study highlighted how the initial formulation of these principles was designed to protect newly acquired sovereignty and promote global peace. Over the decades, the continuous evolution of these objectives necessitated a highly dynamic approach to statecraft, deliberately balancing traditional principles with emerging strategic necessities. Researchers actively noted that the core principles of India's foreign policy have continuously adapted to shifting global polarities while maintaining their foundational essence intact. Furthermore, the evolution of these strategic objectives significantly reflects an enduring commitment to strategic autonomy and peaceful coexistence, serving as the ultimate guiding framework for widespread diplomatic engagements. In closely examining this evolution, senior policy experts ultimately concluded that the objectives and principles of India's foreign policy function not as rigid doctrines but as highly flexible guidelines. This vital adaptability allows the state to effectively navigate complex geopolitical landscapes, explicitly ensuring that the fundamental principles are preserved even as specific diplomatic objectives continuously evolve in direct response to contemporary international challenges.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

251. What was the initial purpose behind the formulation of the foreign policy principles discussed in the scenario?
(A) To enforce global economic standardization and trade systems
(B) Sovereignty protection and promoting global peace
(C) To establish regional military dominance and defense alliances
(D) To expand territorial boundaries through diplomatic channels

252. How do senior policy experts characterize the objectives and principles of the foreign policy in the passage?
(A) As highly flexible guidelines for statecraft
(B) As strictly unalterable constitutional mandates
(C) As rigidly enforced ideological doctrines
(D) As temporary measures for economic relief

253. What specifically necessitated a highly dynamic approach to statecraft according to the researchers?
(A) The sudden decline in global economic trade networks
(B) The formation of new regional military security blocs
(C) Shifting and evolving strategic objectives
(D) The standardization of global democratic value systems

254. Despite adapting to shifting global polarities, what aspect of the foreign policy remains intact?
(A) The immediate tactical alliances
(B) The rigid bureaucratic decision-making process
(C) The exclusive reliance on bilateral trade agreements
(D) The foundational essence of the core principles

255. The evolution of the strategic objectives reflects an enduring commitment to which of the following concepts?
(A) Complete isolationism and economic protectionism
(B) Aggressive territorial expansion and border control
(C) Strategic autonomy and peaceful coexistence
(D) Total alignment with major superpower blocs

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

An academic seminar on regional geopolitics recently analyzed a scenario detailing India's relations with its neighbourhood and extended neighbourhood. The discussion centred on how proximity significantly influences strategic calculations. Participants examined the specific

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strategies employed to stabilize India's relations with its immediate neighbourhood, emphasizing the need for robust economic and security cooperation. The case highlighted that managing relations with the immediate neighbourhood remains a primary priority, fraught with unique historical and geographical complexities. Simultaneously, the scenario explored India's relations with the extended neighbourhood, illustrating how geographical expansion of strategic interests creates new avenues for engagement. The analysis demonstrated that policies directed toward the extended neighbourhood require different diplomatic tools compared to those used in the immediate neighbourhood. By comparing these two spheres, scholars observed that India's relations with its neighbourhood and extended neighbourhood are interconnected yet distinct, requiring carefully calibrated approaches. Ultimately, the successful management of India's relations with both its neighbourhood and extended neighbourhood is deemed essential for securing regional stability, fostering mutual development, and enhancing the broader geopolitical footprint of the state in surrounding regions.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

256. What factor is noted to significantly influence strategic calculations in the discussed scenario?
(A) Global economic paradigms
(B) Geographic proximity
(C) Ideological alignment
(D) Institutional bureaucracy

257. What is identified as a primary priority that is fraught with unique historical and geographical complexities?
(A) Maintaining relations with the extended neighborhood sphere
(B) Engaging with various global governance organizations
(C) Establishing distant overseas military operational bases
(D) Immediate neighborhood relationship management

258. Regarding the extended neighbourhood, what creates new avenues for diplomatic engagement?
(A) Expansion of strategic interests
(B) The isolation of border territories
(C) Reduction of economic cooperation
(D) Centralization of security policies

259. How do the diplomatic tools required for the extended neighbourhood compare to those utilized for the immediate neighbourhood?
(A) They are identical and universally applicable for all
(B) They are entirely obsolete in modern diplomatic circles
(C) They involve different, calibrated approaches
(D) They rely exclusively on coercive military deterrence

260. What is deemed essential for enhancing the broader geopolitical footprint of the state?
(A) Managing both neighbourhood spheres
(B) Ignoring borders for global reach
(C) Prioritizing the extended region
(D) Delegating regional security roles

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A strategic policy brief recently reviewed a complex diplomatic scenario concerning India and major powers, specifically focusing on the United States and Russia. The assessment explored how engagements with these particular major powers shape bilateral and global strategic architectures. In analyzing India and major powers, experts noted that the relationship with the US has increasingly focused on strategic convergence, technological partnerships, and maritime cooperation. This dynamic illustrates the evolving nature of interactions between India and major powers in contemporary geopolitics. Conversely, the briefing examined the traditional ties with Russia, highlighting sustained cooperation in defense and energy sectors as a cornerstone of this specific major power relationship. The case study emphasized the delicate diplomatic balancing act required when simultaneously navigating relations between India and major powers like the US and Russia, which often hold competing global interests. Consequently, managing the nuances of India and major powers necessitates a highly pragmatic foreign policy approach. Scholars concluded that successful engagement with both the US and Russia underscores the necessity of

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operations

273. What specific diplomatic goal was targeted by the manoeuvres executed under the Look East policy?
(A) Isolating the national economy from global fluctuations
(B) Subordinating regional markets to national regulatory frameworks
(C) Decreasing institutional connections with neighbouring states
(D) Integrating the economy with growing markets in the East

274. What structural limitation of the early Look East policy did the scholars debate?
(A) Focusing on economic diplomacy over security
(B) Its inability to attract foreign direct investment
(C) Its excessive reliance on international organizations
(D) Its aggressive territorial expansion strategies

275. What did the sustained implementation of the Look East policy successfully achieve for future foreign relations?
(A) It eliminated all regional border disputes permanently
(B) It transitioned the state into a strictly non-aligned economic posture
(C) Groundwork for deeper, multidimensional engagement
(D) It replaced the need for engagements with Western major powers

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A contemporary foreign policy workshop critically evaluated a scenario detailing the strategic transition towards India's Act East policy. The discussion highlighted how India's Act East policy represents a significant functional upgrade from previous engagements, expanding the geographic and strategic scope of regional diplomacy. The case study examined the core components of India's Act East policy, emphasizing its dual focus on enhancing physical connectivity and strengthening security cooperation within the broader Indo-Pacific region. Participants observed that the implementation of India's Act East policy necessitates proactive diplomatic initiatives, moving beyond mere economic interaction to include robust strategic partnerships and cultural exchanges. The scenario illustrated the practical challenges and geopolitical opportunities associated with operationalizing India's Act East policy, particularly in fostering closer ties with regional institutional frameworks. Analysts determined that India's Act East policy is fundamentally driven by the imperative to assume a more prominent security and economic role in the East. In conclusion, the workshop affirmed that the vigorous pursuit of India's Act East policy is absolutely vital for projecting strategic influence and ensuring comprehensive regional integration in an increasingly complex geopolitical environment.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

276. How is the Act East policy fundamentally described in comparison to previous engagements?
(A) Functional upgrade of geographic and strategic scope
(B) An identical continuation of earlier trade policies
(C) A restrictive framework limiting diplomatic reach
(D) A purely theoretical approach to cultural diplomacy

277. What are the core components emphasized by the dual focus of the Act East policy?
(A) Limiting foreign investment and increasing trade tariffs
(B) Expanding domestic borders and restricting regional travel
(C) Focusing exclusively on normative alignment and climate change
(D) Physical connectivity and security cooperation

278. Moving beyond mere economic interaction, what does the implementation of the Act East policy necessitate?
(A) Strict economic protectionism and isolation
(B) Strategic partnerships and cultural exchanges
(C) Complete withdrawal from the Indo-Pacific region

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governance mechanisms
(D) Marked by total normative alignment and seamless trade relations

267. What primarily drives the rapidly expanding partnership with Japan according to the assessment?
(A) Historical rivalries and border disputes
(B) Regional objectives and infrastructure development
(C) Military alliances targeted against the European Union
(D) Competing global interests and economic protectionism

268. The engagement with the European Union highlights a growing emphasis on which specific collaborative areas?
(A) Trade, climate change, and normative alignment
(B) Defense sector integration and military exercises
(C) Agricultural subsidies and localized economic aid
(D) Unresolved border complexities and maritime security

269. What do the multifaceted relationships with China, Japan, and the EU necessitate from a policy perspective?
(A) A uniform and identical diplomatic strategy for all
(B) Complete withdrawal from bilateral engagements
(C) Distinctly tailored diplomatic responses
(D) Subordination to global governance mandates

270. What is deemed critically essential for achieving long-term strategic and economic goals in this context?
(A) Ignoring cooperative frameworks in favor of isolationism
(B) Prioritizing relations with the EU while disregarding Asian powers
(C) Resolving all border complexities before engaging in economic trade
(D) Balancing competition with China and cooperation with others

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

An extensive academic review recently investigated a historical policy formulation scenario focused on the initial phases of India's Look East policy. The case study explored how the formulation of India's Look East policy originally emerged as a strategic necessity to re-engage with Southeast Asia amidst changing global economic paradigms. Researchers analyzed the foundational economic and political motivations that propelled India's Look East policy, noting its primary emphasis on establishing robust trade linkages and institutional connections with eastern neighbours. The scenario detailed the specific diplomatic manoeuvres executed under India's Look East policy to integrate the national economy with the rapidly growing markets of the East. Scholars debated the early achievements and structural limitations inherent in India's Look East policy, particularly regarding its focus primarily on economic diplomacy over security considerations. By critically examining this initial framework, the analysis demonstrated that India's Look East policy served as a crucial transitional phase in foreign relations. Ultimately, the review concluded that the sustained implementation of India's Look East policy successfully laid the indispensable groundwork required for deeper, multidimensional engagements that would subsequently evolve in later decades.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

271. What initially necessitated the formulation of the Look East policy according to the case study?
(A) The emergence of new military threats in the West
(B) The desire to establish global cultural hegemony
(C) Changing global economic paradigms
(D) The mandate to resolve immediate domestic economic crises

272. What was the primary emphasis of the early phases of the Look East policy?
(A) Creating expansive military alliances and security blocs
(B) Trade linkages and institutional connections
(C) Promoting normative alignment with Western democracies
(D) Facilitating international peacekeeping

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of a permanent seat at the UNSC is most appropriately justified by:
(A) India's weight and peacekeeping contributions.
(B) India's desire to veto environmental treaties.
(C) A desire to dominate smaller South Asian states completely.
(D) Pressure from the G7 to alter the UN structure.

235. Which of the following statements about India's relations with Japan is correct?
(A) Japan opposes India's inclusion in the Quad.
(B) Trade between India and Japan has ceased since 2010.
(C) Japan is the only Asian country India does not have diplomatic ties with.
(D) Japan and India conduct the 'Dharma Guardian' military exercise.

236. Identify the incorrect pair regarding regional forums.
(A) EAS (East Asia Summit) - India is a member
(B) APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) - India is a full member
(C) ARF (ASEAN Regional Forum) - India is a member
(D) ADMM-Plus - India is a participant

237. The fundamental strategic goal of India's "Act East" policy is best described as:
(A) Isolating Southeast Asia from the rest of the world.
(B) Creating a unipolar Asia dominated by India.
(C) Balancing influence through deep regional linkages.
(D) Limiting Indian naval operations strictly to the Arabian Sea.

238. During the 1999 Kargil conflict, the international community largely supported India's position. This was a case demonstrating the success of India's:
(A) Gujral Doctrine
(B) Aggressive expansionist policies
(C) Complete withdrawal from bilateral talks
(D) Diplomatic restraint and adherence to the LoC.

239. The doctrine of "Non-Alignment" fundamentally allowed India to:
(A) Avoid Cold War alliances and maintain autonomy.
(B) Form a secret military pact with the Soviet Union.
(C) Act as a proxy for the United States in Asia.
(D) Declare war on European colonial powers.

240. Consider the following statements.
Statement I: The "Neighbourhood First" policy ensures that India demands reciprocal concessions for every piece of aid it gives to smaller neighbours.
Statement II: The Gujral Doctrine, which influences the Neighbourhood First policy, explicitly advocates for non-reciprocity.
Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

241. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): India has actively promoted the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
Reason (R): India seeks to position itself as a global leader in climate action and sustainable energy transitions.
In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

242. India's strategic interest in the Chumbi Valley is primarily due to its proximity to:
(A) The Siliguri Corridor (Chicken's Neck)
(B) The Strait of Malacca
(C) The Chabahar Port
(D) The Siachen Glacier

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(D) Disengagement from regional institutional frameworks

279. What imperative fundamentally drives the Act East policy according to the analysts in the workshop?
(A) The need to establish domestic political stability
(B) The requirement to mediate conflicts in the Western hemisphere
(C) Assuming a security and economic role in the East
(D) The mandate to reduce military expenditures regionally

280. For what purpose is the vigorous pursuit of the Act East policy considered absolutely vital?
(A) For maintaining economic dependency on major powers
(B) For isolating regional institutional frameworks
(C) For replacing the United Nations in the Indo-Pacific
(D) Strategic influence and regional integration

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A high-level diplomatic symposium recently analyzed a complex case study contrasting the operational frameworks of India's Look East and Act East policy. The comparative scenario explored the specific strategic drivers that necessitated the evolution from India's Look East and Act East policy paradigms. Researchers evaluated how the initial Look East phase primarily prioritized economic reintegration and trade partnerships with Southeast Asia. In direct contrast, the subsequent analysis of the Act East component demonstrated a decisive shift towards comprehensive security cooperation, strategic connectivity, and a wider geographic focus encompassing the Indo-Pacific. The symposium highlighted that understanding the continuum between India's Look East and Act East policy is crucial for interpreting contemporary regional diplomacy. The case study detailed how the strategic objectives expanded significantly during the transition between India's Look East and Act East policy, reflecting a more proactive and multidimensional foreign policy posture. Analysts ultimately concluded that while the foundational economic ties were firmly established during the earlier phase, it is the robust security and strategic initiatives inherent in the latter that truly define the modern trajectory of India's Look East and Act East policy evolution.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

281. What did the initial phase of the Look East policy primarily prioritize according to the comparative scenario?
(A) Economic reintegration and trade partnerships
(B) Aggressive military expansion in the Indo-Pacific
(C) Establishing a unified Asian currency
(D) Navigating strategic convergence with European powers

282. In direct contrast to the early phase, what did the Act East component decisively shift towards?
(A) Strict isolationism and border closures
(B) Security cooperation and strategic connectivity
(C) Exclusively domestic infrastructural development
(D) Normative alignment with strictly Western institutions

283. Why is understanding the continuum between the two policy phases deemed crucial?
(A) For drafting new domestic economic legislation
(B) Interpreting contemporary regional diplomacy
(C) For resolving historical border complexities
(D) For dismantling regional trade organizations

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284. What expanded significantly during the transition between the two policy paradigms?
(A) The scope of the strategic objectives
(B) The reliance on coercive military force
(C) The geographic distance of domestic trade
(D) The isolation from the extended neighbourhood

285. According to the analysts, what truly defines the modern trajectory of this policy evolution?
(A) The foundational economic ties established early on
(B) The complete abandonment of trade

9. (C) Act East Policy
The scenario described involves deepening economic and security ties with a Southeast Asian nation, which is the primary objective of the Act East Policy. Launched in 2014, this policy upgraded the earlier Look East Policy by adding a strong strategic and defense dimension. It emphasizes proactive engagement, improved connectivity, and institutional cooperation with ASEAN and the broader Indo-Pacific region.

10. (A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
India's foreign policy objectives include the eradication of colonialism, promoting a multipolar world, and seeking permanent membership in the UN Security Council. Additionally, ensuring energy security through diversified imports is a modern priority. However, exporting democratic ideology through military intervention is not a part of India's diplomatic principles, as it strictly adheres to non-interference in other states' internal affairs.

11. (D) Signing the Peace, Friendship and Cooperation Treaty with the USSR in 1971.
While India traditionally avoided formal military alliances to maintain non-alignment, the 1971 Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation with the Soviet Union is often viewed as a strategic departure. Signed during the Bangladesh Liberation War, it provided India with necessary diplomatic and security cover. This move was a pragmatic response to the geopolitical alignment of the United States, China, and Pakistan.

12. (B) Shaping the preferences of others through cultural appeal and values.
Soft power is the ability of a country to influence the preferences and behaviors of various international actors through attraction and persuasion rather than coercion or payment. In India's context, this involves leveraging its rich cultural heritage, democratic values, cinema, and traditional practices like Yoga. It complements hard power by building global goodwill and enhancing the nation's reputation on the world stage.

13. (A) 4, 1, 3, 2
India's foreign policy milestones began with the Panchsheel Agreement in 1954. This was followed by the Tashkent Agreement in 1966 after the Indo-Pakistani war. The first nuclear test at Pokhran occurred in 1974, marking a significant shift in strategic capabilities. Finally, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation was established in 1985 to promote regional integration and economic development.

14. (D) Multi-alignment and issue-based coalitions.
To navigate the strategic competition between major powers like the United States and China, India employs a strategy of multi-alignment. This involves participating in various issue-based coalitions and maintaining functional relationships with multiple partners. By avoiding rigid alliances, India preserves its strategic autonomy and maximizes its ability to protect national interests while contributing to a stable, multipolar global order.

15. (A) It established the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir.
The Simla Agreement, signed in 1972 between India and Pakistan following the 1971 war, established the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir. A key provision of the agreement is the commitment to resolve all bilateral disputes through peaceful means and direct negotiations. It excludes third-party mediation, emphasizing that issues between the two nations should be handled bilaterally and peacefully.

16. (B) Katchatheevu Agreement - Maldives
The Katchatheevu Agreement was actually signed between India and Sri Lanka in 1974 to settle the maritime boundary in the Palk Strait. It is not associated with the Maldives. Other agreements like the Indus Water Treaty with Pakistan, the Farakka Barrage Treaty with Bangladesh, and the Mahakali Treaty with Nepal are correctly matched with their respective neighboring countries and issues.

17. (B) Advocating for reformed multilateralism to reflect contemporary realities.
India's current strategy toward global governance focuses on advocating for reformed multilateralism. This approach seeks to update international institutions, such as the United Nations and the World Trade Organization, to reflect contemporary geopolitical and economic realities. India aims to ensure that the voices of developing nations are heard and that global

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analyzed a specific geopolitical scenario focusing exclusively on India's engagement with regional organisations. The comprehensive case study examined how interactions with localized multilateral groupings directly impact neighbourhood stability and economic cooperation. Researchers evaluated the diplomatic mechanisms utilized during India's engagement with regional organisations, highlighting the focus on enhancing regional connectivity, fostering cross-border trade, and addressing shared security challenges. The scenario illustrated the inherent difficulties and strategic opportunities associated with India's engagement with regional organisations, particularly when navigating diverse political systems and asymmetrical economic capacities among member states. Analysts noted that prioritizing India's engagement with regional organisations allows for the creation of targeted, region-specific solutions to complex transnational issues that broader global forums might overlook. The discussion emphasized that effective participation in these regional bodies is critical for solidifying strategic presence within the immediate and extended neighbourhood. In conclusion, the consortium affirmed that proactive and sustained India's engagement with regional organisations is fundamentally essential for constructing a cohesive regional architecture, promoting collective economic prosperity, and mitigating localized geopolitical frictions through institutionalized dialogue.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

291. What is the direct impact of interactions with localized multilateral groupings according to the case study?
(A) It permanently resolves all international trade disputes
(B) It isolates the state from global governance architectures
(C) Impact on neighbourhood stability and cooperation
(D) It enforces unified political systems across the region

292. Which of the following is highlighted as a primary focus during engagement with regional organisations?
(A) Cross-border trade and shared security challenges
(B) Dismantling regional connectivity networks
(C) Replacing domestic currencies with a global standard
(D) Withdrawing from the immediate neighbourhood completely

293. What inherent difficulty is associated with navigating regional organisations?
(A) Managing excessive amounts of foreign direct investment
(B) Overcoming the strict uniformity of member states' economies
(C) Ignoring transnational issues in favour of domestic policies
(D) Diverse political systems and economic asymmetries

294. What specific advantage does prioritizing engagement with regional organisations provide over broader global forums?
(A) It allows for complete avoidance of international law
(B) Targeted, region-specific solutions to issues
(C) It guarantees unanimous agreement on all global security matters
(D) It provides exclusive access to European markets

295. Why is proactive participation in regional bodies considered fundamentally essential?
(A) To dominate member states economically through coercive means
(B) To substitute the functions of major powers in the global arena
(C) To build regional architecture and mitigate frictions
(D) To ensure absolute domestic isolation from external economic shocks

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Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A diplomatic strategy workshop recently evaluated an intricate scenario highlighting the role of India's soft power in its foreign policy. The assessment explored how the systematic projection of cultural heritage, democratic values, and institutional capacity building functions as a vital diplomatic asset. The case study detailed specific instances where the

43. (D) China's network of military facilities in the Indian Ocean.
The "String of Pearls" is a strategic concept referring to the network of Chinese military and commercial facilities along its sea lines of communication, stretching from the Chinese mainland to the Horn of Africa. India views this development with concern, as it could potentially encircle the country and threaten its maritime security. In response, India has strengthened its own naval presence and regional partnerships.

44. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
The Panchsheel Agreement was signed in 1954, laying out principles for peaceful coexistence. The Tashkent Declaration followed the 1965 war in 1966. The Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation was established in 1971 during the Bangladesh crisis. Finally, the India-US Civil Nuclear Agreement, a landmark in bilateral relations, was finalized in 2008, ending India's nuclear isolation.

45. (C) It is a formal military alliance with a mutual defense pact.
The Quad is an informal strategic forum comprising India, Japan, the United States, and Australia. While it promotes a free and open Indo-Pacific and addresses challenges like climate change and technology, it is not a formal military alliance with a mutual defense pact. Instead, members cooperate on various security and economic issues through joint exercises, ministerial meetings, and high-level summits.

46. (D) Pakistan
Following India's decision to abrogate Article 370, which granted special status to Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan responded by immediately downgrading diplomatic ties. This included suspending bilateral trade and expelling India's High Commissioner. Pakistan's reaction reflects its long-standing opposition to India's internal policy changes regarding the region, which has led to a significant and sustained increase in bilateral tensions.

47. (A) 1, 2, and 3 only
India considers the Indian Ocean Region as a vital part of its extended neighborhood. The SAGAR initiative reflects this by promoting security and growth for all in the region. India also maintains observer status in the Indian Ocean Commission. However, India does not seek to militarize the entire ocean to exclude others; instead, it advocates for a free and inclusive maritime order.

48. (B) Doklam - China/Bhutan tri-junction
The Doklam standoff in 2017 involved a border dispute at the tri-junction of India, China, and Bhutan. Other pairs are incorrect: Kalapani is a dispute between India and Nepal, Sir Creek is between India and Pakistan, and Aksai Chin is a major territorial dispute between India and China. These border issues remain sensitive points in India's bilateral relations with its neighbors.

49. (B) Bypass Pakistan to access Afghanistan and Central Asia.
India's investment in the Chabahar Port in Iran is a strategic move to secure a transit route to Afghanistan and Central Asia that bypasses Pakistan. This project is crucial for enhancing India's economic and strategic reach in the region, especially since Pakistan often restricts land access for Indian goods. It also provides a gateway for the International North-South Transport Corridor, linking India to Russia.

50. (A) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
India's foreign policy has evolved from Nehruvian idealism to a pragmatic post-Cold War stance and current multi-alignment. Soft power is now a formally recognized tool. While the 1998 nuclear tests initially led to international sanctions, India successfully navigated this period through diplomacy, leading to the 2008 Civil Nuclear Deal and its eventual integration into the global nuclear order, rather than permanent isolation.

51. (C) Interference in internal religious conflicts
India's policy toward the Middle East is guided by principles of non-interference in internal affairs and maintaining balanced relations with all regional powers. Its primary interests are energy security, the welfare of the large Indian diaspora, and enhancing trade and investment. India avoids taking sides in regional or religious conflicts, focusing instead on pragmatic bilateral engagement to protect its economic and strategic interests.

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1. (C) A is true but R is false.
The Gujral Doctrine, formulated in the late 1990s, advocated for India to provide unilateral concessions to its smaller neighbors to build trust and regional cooperation. It emphasized non-reciprocity rather than seeking hegemony. India aimed to treat its neighbors as sovereign equals, contradicting the notion of establishing absolute dominance or ignoring their sovereign status in South Asia.

2. (A) Mutual interference in internal affairs
The Panchsheel agreement, signed in 1954 between India and China, consists of five core principles for peaceful coexistence. These include mutual respect for territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful co-existence. Therefore, any form of interference in the internal matters of another nation directly contradicts these foundational tenets.

3. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
India's Nuclear Doctrine maintains a policy of no first use, meaning nuclear weapons will only be used in retaliation against a nuclear attack. However, the doctrine also specifies that India reserves the right to respond with nuclear weapons if attacked with biological or chemical weapons. This dual approach ensures a credible minimum deterrence while addressing various non-traditional strategic threats.

4. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
The Mandal Theory is an ancient geopolitical concept from Kautilya's Arthashastra. The Gujral Doctrine focuses on non-reciprocal relationships with neighbors. The Look East Policy was designed for economic integration with ASEAN countries. Finally, the SAGAR initiative emphasizes maritime cooperation and security in the Indian Ocean. Mapping these concepts correctly highlights the evolution and diversity of India's strategic foreign policy frameworks.

5. (C) Maintaining independent foreign policy choices without formal alliances.
Strategic autonomy refers to the ability of a state to pursue its national interests and adopt preferred foreign policy choices without being constrained by formal military alliances. India utilizes this principle to engage with multiple global powers simultaneously. This approach allows for independent decision-making based on specific issues, ensuring that the country's sovereignty and strategic interests remain protected globally.

6. (B) It prioritizes political and economic engagement with nearby states.
The Neighbourhood First policy is a core component of India's foreign policy that prioritizes building strong, mutually beneficial relations with immediate neighbors. It focuses on enhancing political engagement, physical connectivity, and economic cooperation within South Asia. By investing in regional stability and prosperity, India seeks to create a secure environment that supports its domestic growth and strengthens its regional leadership.

7. (A) 1 and 3 only
India played a pioneering role as a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement, which sought to maintain autonomy during the Cold War. The movement's first official summit took place in Belgrade in 1961. Unlike military alliances, NAM was established to promote peace and cooperation among developing nations, rather than acting as a military bloc or encouraging total diplomatic neutrality.

8. (A) I.K. Gujral - Non-Reciprocal Neighbourhood Policy
Prime Minister I.K. Gujral is specifically credited with formulating the Gujral Doctrine, which emphasizes a non-reciprocal approach toward India's smaller neighbors. This policy was intended to foster goodwill and trust in the South Asian region. Other initiatives, such as the Act East Policy or Panchsheel, are associated with different leaders like Narendra Modi and Jawaharlal Nehru, respectively.

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26. (A) An enhanced projection of India's soft power globally.
Initiatives like Pravasi Bharatiya Divas strengthen the connection between India and its global diaspora. This engagement directly enhances India's soft power by utilizing the influence and success of Indians abroad to project a positive image of the country. A vibrant diaspora acts as a bridge for cultural exchange, investment, and diplomatic lobbying, thereby strengthening India's bilateral relations with various host nations.

27. (A) 1, 2, and 4 only
BRICS consists of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, and it successfully established the New Development Bank to fund infrastructure projects. The grouping aims to reform global financial governance to better represent emerging economies. While India is a key member, the very first BRICS summit was held in Yekaterinburg, Russia, in 2009, not in India.

28. (B) I2U2 - India, Israel, UAE, US
The I2U2 group, consisting of India, Israel, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States, focuses on economic cooperation in areas like water, energy, and transportation. The Quad includes India, Japan, the US, and Australia, while AUKUS does not include India. BIMSTEC focuses on the Bay of Bengal region and includes nations like Myanmar and Sri Lanka, but excludes Pakistan.

29. (C) Soft Power
Using cultural heritage, traditional medicine, and cinema to build international goodwill is a classic application of soft power. This approach relies on the attractiveness of a nation's values and culture to influence others rather than using military or economic threats. By fostering positive perceptions through non-coercive means, a country can achieve diplomatic goals and build long-term partnerships based on mutual respect.

30. (A) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
India and the European Union share a significant strategic partnership with strong cooperation in trade, climate change, and security. While the EU is one of India's largest trading partners and both hold regular summits, the Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement has not yet been successfully implemented. Negotiations for this comprehensive free trade deal have been ongoing for several years, facing various hurdles.

31. (A) Creating a military alliance against external threats.
BIMSTEC was established to promote economic growth, regional connectivity, and technical cooperation among countries surrounding the Bay of Bengal. Its primary focus is on sectors like trade, investment, energy, and tourism. It is not intended to be a military alliance against external threats. Instead, it serves as a bridge between South Asia and Southeast Asia, fostering active collaboration on shared socio-economic interests.

32. (B) Supplying vaccines to other countries to strengthen ties.
Vaccine diplomacy refers to the use of vaccine delivery as a diplomatic tool to strengthen international relations and enhance a country's global influence. During the COVID-19 pandemic, India's "Vaccine Maitri" initiative involved supplying Indian-made vaccines to various developing and neighboring nations. This humanitarian effort demonstrated India's pharmaceutical capabilities and its commitment to being a responsible global actor and reliable partner during crises.

33. (B) Concerns over trade deficits and domestic industry protection.
India decided not to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership primarily due to concerns about massive trade deficits and the potential negative impact on domestic industries. There were fears that the agreement would lead to a surge of cheap imports, particularly from China, which could harm local manufacturing and agriculture. Protecting the interests of domestic stakeholders and ensuring fair market access were key priorities.

34. (A) Connectivity projects in the Northeast linking to Southeast Asia.
A primary way to evaluate the success of the Act East policy is by examining the progress of physical and digital connectivity projects in India's Northeast. These initiatives are designed to link the region with Southeast Asian markets, fostering economic growth and regional integration. Success in this area indicates that

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decision-making processes become more inclusive, democratic, and effective for all.

18. (A) Neighbourhood First policy
Providing humanitarian assistance, such as food grains and medicines, to a neighboring country in crisis is a practical application of the Neighbourhood First policy. This framework emphasizes India's commitment to the stability and prosperity of its immediate region. Such actions help build trust, foster goodwill, and demonstrate India's role as a reliable partner and first responder in South Asian emergencies.

19. (C) China
The terms "Wuhan Spirit" and "Chennai Connect" refer to informal summits held between the leaders of India and China. These high-level meetings were designed to improve communication, manage differences, and build a strategic consensus following periods of heightened border tensions. They represent an effort to maintain stable bilateral relations through direct, personal engagement between the heads of the two nations.

20. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
The "Connect Central Asia" policy is a strategic initiative aimed at strengthening India's political, economic, and energy ties with Central Asian nations. While India maintains deep bilateral relations with members of the Gulf Cooperation Council, it is not a full member of the organization itself. Instead, India engages with the GCC as a major trading partner and through various strategic dialogues.

21. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
India has significantly deepened its defense and strategic partnership with the United States in the 21st century. This progress is anchored by the signing of several foundational agreements, including LEMOA for logistics, COMCASA for secure communications, and BECA for geospatial intelligence. These pacts facilitate greater military interoperability and technological cooperation, directly supporting the assertion that the bilateral relationship has reached a new level.

22. (B) Permanent Military Alliance Treaty
India and Japan share a robust strategic partnership, but they do not have a permanent military alliance treaty. Their cooperation is facilitated through mechanisms like the 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue, annual summits between Prime Ministers, and the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement. These frameworks focus on economic collaboration, maritime security, and regional stability in the Indo-Pacific without necessitating a formal, binding mutual defense pact.

23. (D) The relationship became a "Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership" in 2010.
The relationship between India and Russia was elevated to a "Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership" in 2010. This status reflects the deep-rooted cooperation in defense, nuclear energy, and space exploration. Russia remains a major supplier of military hardware to India, and the two nations maintain frequent high-level engagements. Contrary to some claims, Russia also supported India's full membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

24. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
India is a full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, having joined in 2017. Regarding ASEAN, India began as a sectoral dialogue partner before becoming a full dialogue partner. India is a founding member of the G20, which focuses on international economic cooperation. However, India remains a non-member of the Nuclear Suppliers Group, although it actively seeks accession to this export control regime.

25. (C) Greater focus on security cooperation and strategic engagement.
The transition from the "Look East" to the "Act East" policy signifies a more proactive and action-oriented approach toward the Indo-Pacific. While the earlier policy was primarily economic in nature, Act East adds a significant security and strategic dimension. It involves deeper defense cooperation, improved regional connectivity projects, and more intensive political engagement with East Asian and Southeast Asian nations.

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partnerships
(C) Security and strategic initiatives of the latter phase
(D) The focus solely on domestic cultural heritage

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A global governance seminar recently explored a detailed scenario assessing the parameters of India's engagement with international organisations. The case study systematically investigated how active participation in global multilateral forums advances broader foreign policy objectives. Participants analyzed the specific diplomatic strategies deployed during India's engagement with international organisations, particularly focusing on efforts to advocate for institutional reforms and equitable representation. The scenario highlighted that India's engagement with international organisations is consistently characterized by a strong commitment to multilateralism, global peacekeeping operations, and the establishment of universally applicable norms. Scholars observed the complexities involved in negotiating within these vast multilateral frameworks, noting that India's engagement with international organisations often requires balancing national interests with collective global responsibilities. The assessment demonstrated how contributions to global dialogues on climate change, trade, and security are significantly amplified through these multilateral platforms. Ultimately, the seminar concluded that robust and continuous India's engagement with international organisations remains an indispensable tool for shaping global governance architectures, projecting diplomatic influence on the world stage, and ensuring that developing nations maintain a strong collective voice in global decision-making processes.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

286. What specific diplomatic effort is highlighted during engagement with international organisations?
(A) Enforcing unilateral trade embargoes
(B) Dismantling global peacekeeping operations
(C) Promoting isolationist economic policies
(D) Institutional reforms and equitable representation

287. Engagement with international organisations is consistently characterized by a strong commitment to which of the following?
(A) Bilateral defense treaties over multilateral agreements
(B) Regional economic protectionism and closed borders
(C) Multilateralism and global peacekeeping efforts
(D) Coercive diplomatic measures and military expansion

288. What specific complexity is involved when negotiating within vast multilateral frameworks?
(A) Maximizing only collective global responsibilities while ignoring domestic needs
(B) Balancing national interests with collective global responsibilities
(C) Eradicating all some forms of national sovereignty
(D) Aligning strictly with major superpowers on every issue

289. Through multilateral platforms, contributions to global dialogues on which subjects are significantly amplified?
(A) Domestic electoral reforms and taxation
(B) Localized agricultural subsidies and municipal laws
(C) Historical preservation of ancient internal borders
(D) Climate change, trade, and security

290. What is identified as an ultimate outcome of robust engagement with international organisations?
(A) Strong collective voice in global decision-making
(B) Eliminating the need for regional organizations entirely
(C) Securing exclusive bilateral treaties with major powers
(D) Reducing the overall diplomatic influence on the world stage

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

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the policy is effectively translating its strategic goals into tangible infrastructure and improved regional cooperation.

35. (C) India holds veto power in the UN General Assembly.
While India is a major contributor to UN Peacekeeping and has served as a non-permanent member of the Security Council multiple times, it does not hold veto power in the UN General Assembly. Veto power is exclusively held by the five permanent members of the Security Council. India continues to advocate for the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism and for fundamental reforms to the UN structure.

36. (D) Global Biofuel Alliance - Co-founded with China
The Global Biofuel Alliance was co-founded by India, the United States, and Brazil, not China. It was launched during India's G20 presidency to promote the adoption of biofuels. Other initiatives like the International Solar Alliance with France, the CDRI for resilient infrastructure, and the Supply Chain Resilience Initiative with Japan and Australia are correctly matched with their respective partners and contexts.

37. (C) Look East Policy
The "Look East" policy, launched in the early 1990s, was the predecessor to the current "Act East" policy. While Look East focused primarily on economic integration and building relations with ASEAN countries, Act East represents a more assertive and strategically expanded version of this framework. It encompasses a broader geographic area, including the Indo-Pacific, and places greater emphasis on security and institutional cooperation.

38. (B) Soft power translating into diplomatic leverage.
When a nation effectively utilizes its diaspora to influence the policies of a host country in its favor, it is a clear example of soft power translating into diplomatic leverage. The diaspora's economic success, professional influence, and cultural presence create a network that can advance the home country's interests. This form of diplomacy relies on the organic connections and goodwill generated by people-to-people ties.

39. (D) I.K. Gujral
Prime Minister I.K. Gujral is the architect of the Gujral Doctrine, which introduced the principle of non-reciprocity in India's relations with its immediate neighbors. This doctrine suggests that as the larger power, India should offer unilateral concessions and assistance to neighbors like Nepal and Bangladesh without expecting an immediate or equal return. This approach aims to foster a peaceful and cooperative regional environment.

40. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.
The primary focus of SAARC is to promote economic and regional integration among South Asian nations, not military cooperation. However, the organization's progress has been significantly hindered by bilateral tensions, particularly between India and Pakistan. These disputes have led to the frequent postponement of summits and have stalled many initiatives designed to enhance regional connectivity and economic cooperation within the bloc.

41. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
India has shifted its regional focus toward BIMSTEC as SAARC remains largely dysfunctional. This change is primarily caused by Pakistan's persistent obstruction of regional initiatives, which has blocked progress on connectivity and economic integration within South Asia. By prioritizing BIMSTEC, India can bypass these bilateral hurdles and engage with other neighbors like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Thailand to achieve regional development goals.

42. (A) Enhancing energy security and strategic presence.
India's "Connect Central Asia" policy is primarily driven by the need to secure reliable energy sources and establish a stronger strategic presence in a vital region. Central Asia possesses vast oil, gas, and mineral reserves that are essential for India's economic growth. Additionally, the region's location makes it geostrategically important for countering regional influences and enhancing trade routes to Russia and Europe.

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role of India's soft power in its foreign policy significantly enhanced bilateral relations without the utilization of traditional coercive measures. Participants analyzed how elements such as diaspora engagement, educational exchanges, and developmental assistance underscore the effective role of India's soft power in its foreign policy. The scenario demonstrated that leveraging non-coercive attraction allows the state to build enduring global goodwill and facilitate smoother strategic negotiations. Scholars observed that the role of India's soft power in its foreign policy is increasingly integrated with overarching economic and security objectives, creating a holistic approach to international relations. Ultimately, the workshop concluded that maximizing the role of India's soft power in its foreign policy is absolutely imperative for shaping positive global narratives, cultivating deep-rooted transnational networks, and enhancing overall diplomatic leverage in a competitive global environment.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

296. According to the workshop, what functions as a vital diplomatic asset in foreign policy?
(A) The utilization of traditional coercive measures
(B) The rapid expansion of regional military bases
(C) The strict limitation of transnational networks
(D) Cultural heritage and institutional capacity building

297. How does the role of soft power significantly enhance bilateral relations in the scenario?
(A) Functioning without traditional coercive measures
(B) By imposing strict economic sanctions on trading partners
(C) By relying heavily on immediate military interventions
(D) By isolating the state from international organisations

298. Which elements underscore the effective role of soft power in foreign policy?
(A) Border skirmishes and regional embargoes
(B) Diaspora engagement and developmental assistance
(C) Military alliances and strategic defense partnerships
(D) High tariff barriers and economic protectionism

299. What does leveraging non-coercive attraction allow the state to achieve strategically?
(A) Completely replace the need for an Act East policy
(B) Build global goodwill and smoother negotiations
(C) Dictate the domestic policies of neighbouring states
(D) Avoid all forms of economic and security negotiations

300. How is the role of soft power currently utilized in the broader context of international relations?
(A) Integration with economic and security objectives
(B) It is kept strictly separated from all economic initiatives
(C) It is used exclusively to interact with international organisations
(D) It serves only as a tool for immediate neighbourhood management

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52. (D) Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation
ITEC stands for Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation. Launched in 1964, it is a flagship program of India's development assistance and soft power. It focuses on capacity building by providing training and technical expertise to professionals from developing countries across the globe. This initiative helps build long-term goodwill and strengthens India's bilateral ties with nations in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

53. (A) 2, 3, 1, 4
The sequence of Prime Ministerial tenures shaping foreign policy began with Rajiv Gandhi in the mid-1980s. P.V. Narasimha Rao followed in the early 1990s, initiating the Look East policy. I.K. Gujral then introduced his namesake doctrine in the late 1990s. Finally, Atal Bihari Vajpayee oversaw the nuclear tests and furthered strategic shifts, marking the beginning of a more assertive phase in Indian diplomacy.

54. (B) Developing physical infrastructure in the Northeast.
To successfully implement the "Act East" policy, India must prioritize the development of physical infrastructure in its Northeast region. Roads, bridges, and digital networks are essential for creating the connectivity needed to link India with Southeast Asian neighbors. Improving this infrastructure not only boosts regional economic development but also facilitates the strategic and cultural engagement that the policy aims to achieve.

55. (D) India leads the G33 coalition for food security interests.
In the World Trade Organization, India plays a leading role in the G33 coalition, advocating for the food security interests of developing countries. India strongly supports the concept of Special and Differential Treatment and seeks a permanent solution for public stockholding of food grains. It remains committed to the WTO's multilateral trading system while defending its right to provide necessary agricultural subsidies.

56. (A) Indra - France
The military exercise "Indra" is a bilateral exercise conducted between India and Russia, not France. India's exercises with France include "Varuna" for the navy and "Shakti" for the army. Other pairs are correct: "Malabar" involves the Quad nations, "Yudh Abhyas" is with the USA, and "Surya Kiran" is a regular joint exercise with the neighboring nation of Nepal.

57. (C) Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)
The Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative is the overarching framework providing the vision for India's current maritime strategy. Launched in 2019, IPOI focuses on seven pillars, including maritime security, ecology, and resource management. It encourages international cooperation to ensure a safe, secure, and stable maritime domain in the Indo-Pacific, aligning with India's broader strategic interests and its commitment to the SAGAR initiative.

58. (A) Soft power diplomacy
Negotiating a trade agreement by emphasizing shared democratic values and historical ties is a classic example of soft power diplomacy. This approach uses the attractiveness of a nation's culture and political ideals to build consensus and achieve diplomatic objectives. By focusing on mutual respect and common heritage rather than threats or incentives, a country can foster deeper, more resilient international partnerships.

59. (D) Laid the foundation for the Non-Aligned Movement.
The Bandung Conference of 1955 was a landmark event that brought together leaders from Asian and African nations to promote Afro-Asian economic and cultural cooperation. It was significant because it laid the foundational principles for the Non-Aligned Movement. The conference emphasized opposition to colonialism and neocolonialism, advocating for a middle path for developing nations during the height of the Cold War.

60. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
India's "Look East" policy was initiated in the early 1990s as a strategic response to the end of the Cold War and the country's domestic economic crisis. While cultural links were recognized, the policy was primarily driven by the need for economic integration with the fast-growing economies of Southeast Asia. It aimed to expand trade, investment, and strategic ties beyond just cultural assimilation.

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78. (D) Vaccine Diplomacy
Supplying Indian-manufactured COVID-19 vaccines to developing countries is a prime example of vaccine diplomacy. This initiative, known as "Vaccine Maitri," served as a humanitarian effort that also enhanced India's international prestige and soft power. By acting as a responsible global partner during a health crisis, India strengthened its diplomatic ties and demonstrated its vital role in the global pharmaceutical supply chain.

79. (A) China
India maintains a "2+2 Dialogue" format, involving its Foreign and Defense Ministers, with several key strategic partners including the United States, Japan, Russia, and Australia. However, it does not have such a high-level ministerial mechanism with China. The absence of this format reflects the more complex and often strained nature of India-China relations, which lack the same level of deep strategic convergence found with other partners.

80. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
The Gujral Doctrine consists of five principles aimed at improving India's relations with its South Asian neighbors. It explicitly states that India should not seek reciprocity from smaller nations like Bangladesh and Nepal. Another core principle is that no country in the region should allow its territory to be used against the interests of another, fostering a cooperative and secure regional environment based on mutual trust.

81. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project is a critical component of India's Act East Policy. It is vital because it provides an alternative maritime and inland water route to India's landlocked Northeast region via Myanmar's Sittwe Port. This project reduces dependency on the narrow Siliguri Corridor and enhances economic connectivity, thereby supporting both the Assertion and the Reason provided in the question.

82. (A) Mutual non-interference in internal affairs
A central principle of the Panchsheel agreement is mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs. This tenet, along with respect for territorial integrity and peaceful co-existence, was intended to guide relations between India and China. The principles advocate for a world order where states respect each other's sovereignty and resolve disputes through dialogue rather than through military expansion or interference in domestic political processes.

83. (C) The Chabahar port project is located in Pakistan.
The statement that the Chabahar port project is located in Pakistan is incorrect; it is actually located in Iran. India is developing this port to secure a transit route to Afghanistan and Central Asia that bypasses Pakistani territory. Other statements correctly reflect India's "Look West" policy for the Middle East, the importance of Central Asia for energy, and India's strategic engagement with Southeast Asian nations.

84. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Significant events in Indian foreign policy include the first NAM Summit in 1961 and the subsequent border war with China in 1962. Decades later, the 1998 Pokhran II nuclear tests signaled a shift in India's strategic capabilities. The launch of the "Act East" policy in 2014 marked a more proactive approach to engaging with the Indo-Pacific region and enhancing Southeast Asian ties.

85. (C) Enhanced energy, investment, and strategic ties.
India's "Look West" policy has successfully resulted in enhanced energy security, increased investment, and stronger strategic ties with nations in the Middle East. By deepening engagement with regional powers like the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Israel, India has secured vital oil supplies and attracted significant foreign capital. This policy also focuses on the welfare of the Indian diaspora, which contributes billions in remittances.

86. (B) The end of the Cold War and economic crisis.
The fundamental shift in India's foreign policy post-1991 was caused by the end of the Cold War and a severe domestic economic crisis. The collapse of the Soviet Union removed a key strategic partner, while the economic crisis necessitated liberal reforms and greater global integration. These factors forced India to adopt

as a nuclear weapons state. This led to the 2008 Civil Nuclear Deal, which integrated India into the global nuclear commerce regime without requiring it to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as a non-nuclear state.

70. (A) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
India's relations with major powers are marked by the 123 Agreement with the US, a deep defense partnership with Russia, and a special strategic relationship with Japan. The EU is also a key partner in green technology. However, India has not resolved all its border disputes with China; the Line of Actual Control remains undemarcated and continues to be a source of significant tension.

71. (D) Securing cross-border terrorism bases.
India's foreign policy is built on principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the promotion of a stable, multipolar world order. Protecting the interests of the Indian diaspora is also a primary objective. Conversely, securing cross-border terrorism bases is contrary to India's national interests and its strong international stance against all forms of terrorism, which it views as a major global threat.

72. (A) Utilizing expatriates to build bridges with host nations.
Diaspora diplomacy involves a country utilizing its expatriate population to build bridges and strengthen relations with host nations. This approach leverages the economic, cultural, and political influence of the diaspora to advance the home country's interests. By engaging with its citizens abroad, a nation can enhance its soft power, attract investment, and foster a more favorable international environment through people-to-people connections.

73. (C) Shared values, Indo-Pacific vision, and investments.
India prioritizes its relationship with Japan due to their shared democratic values, a common vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific, and significant Japanese investment in Indian infrastructure. Both nations see each other as natural partners in balancing regional dynamics and ensuring maritime security. This deep strategic and economic cooperation is reinforced by regular high-level dialogues and a shared commitment to a rules-based international order.

74. (A) Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)
An Indian diplomat tasked with advancing interests in the Indian Ocean should leverage the SAGAR initiative, which stands for Security and Growth for All in the Region. This framework outlines India's vision for a collaborative maritime environment, focusing on regional security, economic cooperation, and disaster management. It emphasizes India's role as a net security provider and its commitment to the collective prosperity of the Indian Ocean littoral states.

75. (D) India has shifted from non-alignment to multi-alignment.
India's stance on the Non-Aligned Movement has evolved from its Cold War roots toward a modern policy of multi-alignment. While India remains a member of NAM and values its historical significance, it now focuses on engaging with multiple global powers and participating in various international groupings to protect its strategic autonomy. This shift allows India to be more pragmatic and flexible in achieving its national interests.

76. (B) ASEAN - Full Member
India is not a full member of ASEAN; it is a full dialogue partner and a member of the ASEAN Regional Forum and the East Asia Summit. India is a founding member of SAARC and BIMSTEC and became a full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation in 2017. These memberships reflect India's deep engagement with various regional blocks to promote its economic and strategic objectives.

77. (C) Balancing relations among major powers to maximize interests.
Strategic hedging is a diplomatic strategy where a state avoids choosing sides between competing major powers, instead balancing its relations with all of them. This approach allows the country to mitigate risks and maximize its own strategic and economic interests. In India's foreign policy, this involves participating in diverse groupings like the Quad and the SCO simultaneously to preserve strategic autonomy and regional stability.

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Sri Lanka, and Thailand. The Maldives is not a member of this regional organization, as it is not situated around the Bay of Bengal. BIMSTEC focuses on multi-sectoral cooperation to promote economic growth and regional integration among its members, serving as a vital link between South Asian and Southeast Asian countries.

112. (B) Immediate neighbours in South Asia
The Gujral Doctrine is a set of five principles formulated by former Prime Minister I.K. Gujral to guide India's relations with its immediate neighbors in South Asia. It emphasizes building trust through non-reciprocal concessions, non-interference in internal affairs, and respect for territorial integrity. The doctrine aims to create a peaceful and cooperative regional environment that allows India and its neighbors to focus on their respective developmental goals.

113. (B) Maintaining a "De-hyphenation" policy with regional powers.
To manage the complex and often conflicting interests in the Middle East, India employs a "De-hyphenation" policy. This involves maintaining independent, high-level bilateral relations with various regional powers, such as Israel, Iran, and Saudi Arabia, without letting one relationship negatively impact another. This pragmatic approach allows India to pursue its energy, security, and diaspora interests effectively while avoiding entanglement in regional rivalries or conflicts.

114. (A) Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR)
To assess India's competency in projecting and managing naval power in the Indian Ocean, one should review the Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region. This initiative enhances maritime domain awareness by coordinating with several international partners to track vessels and identify security threats. It demonstrates India's leadership in maritime security and its role as a net security provider and information hub in the region.

115. (C) India advocates for the adoption of the CCIT at the UN.
India has long maintained a zero-tolerance policy toward terrorism and has been a leading voice in advocating for a global legal framework to combat it. Specifically, India has consistently pushed for the adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism at the United Nations. This proposed treaty aims to provide a clear definition of terrorism and enhance international cooperation in prosecuting and extraditing those involved in terrorist acts.

116. (D) SAARC - Establishing a single South Asian currency
SAARC's goals include promoting regional welfare and economic integration, but establishing a single South Asian currency is not a primary or active objective of the organization. Other pairs are correct: SAGAR focuses on maritime security, BIMSTEC on Bay of Bengal cooperation, and the BBIN initiative specifically addresses a motor vehicle agreement to improve land-based connectivity among Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal.

117. (C) The global popularity of Indian cinema and digital content.
The global popularity of Indian cinema, music, and digital content is a powerful indicator of India's soft power in the modern era. These cultural exports shape international perceptions and build goodwill without the use of force or economic pressure. In a digital age, the wide reach of Indian entertainment and the influence of its creative industries contribute significantly to the country's global brand and its ability to attract and persuade others.

118. (B) Willingness to defend strategic interests and sovereignty.
The 2017 Doklam standoff tested India's willingness to defend its strategic interests and sovereignty, as well as those of its partner, Bhutan. By preventing Chinese troops from constructing a road in the disputed territory, India demonstrated its resolve to maintain the regional status quo and protect the sensitive Siliguri Corridor. The event highlighted India's role as a security provider and its commitment to resisting unilateral territorial changes.

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119. (D) International Solar Alliance (ISA)
The International Solar Alliance is the first international intergovernmental organization to be headquartered in India, specifically in Gurugram. Co-founded by India and France, the

a more pragmatic, economy-focused diplomacy and to seek new partnerships with Western and Asian nations.

87. (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
Soft power involves using cultural and ideological attraction rather than military or economic force. Yoga, Bollywood cinema, and democratic values are classic examples of India's soft power that build global goodwill. In contrast, the S-400 missile system is a tool of hard power, representing military capability and strategic deterrence. Therefore, only the cultural and value-based elements are correctly categorized as soft power.

88. (A) New Development Bank (NDB) - Associated with BRICS
The New Development Bank is correctly associated with the BRICS grouping, as it was established by Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa to fund infrastructure. Other pairs are incorrect: the Asian Development Bank is headquartered in Manila, not New Delhi; the World Bank was not founded by SAARC; and India is a major founding member and shareholder of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

89. (C) International North-South Transport Corridor
To enhance connectivity with Central Asia while bypassing hostile territories, an Indian policymaker should promote the International North-South Transport Corridor. This multi-modal route connects India to Russia and Central Asia via Iran, significantly reducing travel time and costs. It serves as a strategic alternative to traditional sea routes and bypasses the land obstacles presented by neighboring countries with which India has strained relations.

90. (B) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
The Neighbourhood First policy focuses on improving connectivity, prioritizing dialogue, and providing non-reciprocal assistance during regional crises, while managing the challenges posed by other major powers in the region. However, it does not require neighboring countries to adopt India's constitution, as India strictly respects the sovereign equality and internal political processes of all its neighbors as a core diplomatic principle.

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91. (D) AUKUS
India and the United States have signed several foundational defense agreements, including LEMOA for logistics, COMCASA for communications, and BECA for geospatial data. These pacts are designed to enhance military cooperation and interoperability. AUKUS, however, is a separate trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States that focuses on nuclear-powered submarines and does not include India as a member.

92. (B) A process involving multiple countries solving problems.
Multilateralism is a process of international cooperation where multiple countries work together to solve common problems and manage global affairs. It is often channeled through international organizations like the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. This approach contrasts with unilateralism, where a single nation acts alone, or bilateralism, which involves agreements strictly between two countries. India consistently advocates for a robust and reformed multilateral system.

93. (A) 2, 3, 4, 1
India's nuclear journey began with the "Smiling Buddha" test in 1974, which led to the formation of the Nuclear Suppliers Group to restrict nuclear trade. Years later, India officially announced its Nuclear Doctrine in early 2003, emphasizing no first use. This was followed by the landmark Civil Nuclear Deal with the United States in 2008, which eventually integrated India into global civilian nuclear commerce.

94. (D) Geopolitical rivalry between India and Pakistan.
The primary cause for the failure of SAARC to achieve deep economic integration is the persistent geopolitical rivalry between India and Pakistan. This conflict has consistently undermined regional cooperation, blocked connectivity projects, and led to the cancellation of summits. While other factors like trade barriers exist, the lack of political trust and ongoing security tensions between the two largest members remain the most significant obstacles to regionalism.

95. (A) India seeks UNSC expansion and a permanent seat.
India's official position on UN Security Council reforms is that the current structure is outdated and does not reflect contemporary global realities. India actively seeks the expansion of both permanent and non-permanent categories of membership and is a leading candidate for a permanent seat. It advocates for these reforms to make the UNSC more representative, transparent, and effective in maintaining international peace and security.

96. (B) Durand Line - India and Myanmar
The Durand Line is the international border between Pakistan and Afghanistan, not India and Myanmar. The border between India and Myanmar is often referred to as the Indo-Bhutan border or simply the international boundary. Other pairs are correct: the Radcliffe Line separates India and Pakistan/Bangladesh, the McMahon Line is the border with China in the east, and the Line of Control is the de facto border in Kashmir.

97. (B) It integrates the Indian and Pacific Oceans strategically.
The concept of the "Indo-Pacific" is significant for India as it strategically integrates the Indian and Pacific Oceans into a single, contiguous space. This reflects India's expanding maritime interests and its role as a key regional player. It allows for broader security and economic cooperation with partners like the US, Japan, and Australia, while emphasizing a free, open, and inclusive maritime order that supports global trade and stability.

98. (A) Refused to join, citing sovereignty concerns.
India has refused to join China's Belt and Road Initiative, primarily citing concerns over national sovereignty and territorial integrity. A major part of the BRI, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, which India considers its sovereign territory. Additionally, India has expressed concerns regarding the lack of transparency, environmental standards, and the potential for "debt-trap diplomacy" associated with various BRI projects.

99. (C) China
The principles of "Panchsheel," or the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, were first formally formulated in the preamble to the 1954 Agreement on Trade and Intercourse between the Tibet Region of China and India. These principles were intended to provide a framework for a stable and friendly relationship between the two nations, emphasizing mutual respect, non-aggression, and non-interference in internal affairs.

100. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
India possesses one of the world's largest diaspora populations, and their remittances are a significant contributor to the national economy. Contrary to the second statement, the Indian government actively engages with the diaspora through various initiatives like Pravasi Bharatiya Divas and the OCI program. They are viewed as a strategic asset and a vital bridge for enhancing India's soft power and global diplomatic influence.

101. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
India's increased focus on BIMSTEC over the dysfunctional SAARC is a strategic move to bypass regional blockades and enhance connectivity with friendly neighbors. This aligns with India's broader policy of multi-alignment, which seeks to maximize strategic autonomy by engaging with various groupings to protect national interests. Therefore, the desire for autonomy and effective regional cooperation directly explains the shift in India's institutional preferences in South Asia.

102. (B) Russia
The BrahMos cruise missile is a highly successful joint venture between India's DRDO and Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya. This partnership represents a significant level of technical and strategic cooperation between the two nations. The missile, named after the Brahmaputra and Moskva rivers, is considered one of the fastest and most advanced supersonic cruise missiles in the world, and it is a centerpiece of India's conventional strike capabilities.

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103. (D) India will only use nuclear weapons in retaliation.
India's "No First Use" policy is a key element of its nuclear doctrine, stating that India will not be the first to use nuclear weapons in a conflict. Instead, nuclear weapons are intended solely for retaliation against a nuclear attack on Indian territory or its forces. This stance is meant to signal a defensive posture and a commitment to nuclear restraint while maintaining a credible minimum deterrence.

104. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Soft power is about attraction through culture and values. Hard power involves the use of military and economic threats to achieve goals. Smart power is the strategic combination of both coercion and persuasion to influence others. Multi-alignment refers to a foreign policy of engaging with multiple, often overlapping global alliances and power centers simultaneously to protect a nation's strategic autonomy and maximize its national interests.

105. (C) India and the EU have suspended all dialogues on human rights.
The statement that India and the European Union have suspended all dialogues on human rights is incorrect. While the two entities sometimes have differing views, they maintain a formal Human Rights Dialogue as part of their broader strategic partnership. Other statements correctly identify the EU as a major trading partner, the establishment of the Trade and Technology Council, and their significant cooperation on climate change and green transition.

106. (A) Growing convergence on a free and open Indo-Pacific.
The elevation of the Quad dialogue to the summit level was primarily caused by the growing strategic convergence among its members—India, Japan, Australia, and the US—on ensuring a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific. This shift reflects a shared concern over unilateral attempts to change the regional status quo and a commitment to cooperating on challenges like maritime security, supply chain resilience, and technological standards.

107. (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
India and Japan share a deep partnership involving high-speed rail projects, cooperation in the G4 for UN reform, and joint maritime exercises like JIMEX. However, they do not have a formal defense treaty that mandates one country to protect the other's borders. Their security relationship is based on strategic cooperation, information sharing, and joint training rather than a binding mutual defense pact similar to NATO.

108. (B) ITEC - Capacity building for developing countries
The Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation program is correctly identified as a capacity-building initiative for developing countries. Other pairs are incorrect: Lines of Credit are primarily for developing nations in Asia and Africa, not exclusively Europe; Vaccine Maitri involves supplying vaccines, not military hardware; and Operation Ganga was the evacuation of Indian nationals from Ukraine, not building dams in Nepal.

109. (C) Cultural diplomacy
Emphasizing shared Buddhist heritage during diplomatic visits is a clear application of cultural diplomacy. By highlighting deep-rooted civilizational and religious links, India utilizes its soft power to build goodwill and strengthen its relationship with neighboring and Southeast Asian nations. This approach helps create a sense of shared identity and mutual respect, providing a positive foundation for broader political and economic cooperation.

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110. (B) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
India's energy diplomacy focuses on managing its heavy dependence on crude oil imports, diversifying sources through engagement with various nations, and leading global initiatives like the International Solar Alliance. While India is making significant strides in renewable energy, it has not achieved 100% self-sufficiency in energy production. It remains a major importer of energy resources to fuel its growing economy and ensure long-term energy security.

111. (A) Maldives
BIMSTEC consists of seven member states: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal,

127. (A) 1, 2, and 4 only
India's soft power is driven by the ICCR's cultural promotion, the global popularity of Indian cuisine, and historical links through Buddhism. These elements rely on attraction rather than coercion. Contrary to the third statement, soft power explicitly avoids the use of economic sanctions or military force, as its effectiveness stems from a nation's ability to win hearts and minds through its culture, values, and democratic institutions.

128. (B) Paradiplomacy - State government involvement in global relations
Paradiplomacy refers to the involvement of sub-national entities, such as state or provincial governments, in international relations. In India, this is seen through various states engaging in global trade summits or cultural exchanges. Other pairs are incorrect: Strategic Autonomy means independent decision-making; Track II diplomacy involves unofficial, non-governmental dialogues; and Hard Power refers to military or economic coercion, not cultural exchanges.

129. (B) Counterbalance unilateral attempts to alter the status quo.
India's active participation in the Quad is a strategic move to counterbalance any unilateral attempts by other powers to alter the status quo in the Indo-Pacific. The grouping focuses on maintaining a rules-based international order, ensuring freedom of navigation, and addressing common challenges like climate change and cyber security. This collaboration helps India protect its maritime interests and contributes to a stable and inclusive regional environment.

130. (B) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
The Neighbourhood First policy emphasizes mutually beneficial relationships, physical connectivity projects like pipelines, and financial support through currency swaps. It is demonstrated through granting transit rights and other cooperative measures. However, it does not involve guaranteeing military intervention in the internal elections of neighbors, as India adheres to the principle of non-interference and respects the sovereign political processes of other nations.

131. (C) Indus Water Treaty
The Indus Water Treaty, signed in 1960 between India and Pakistan with the mediation of the World Bank, is a rare example of a successful water-sharing agreement that has survived multiple wars and periods of intense bilateral tension. It provides a clear framework for the distribution of water from the Indus river system, demonstrating the potential for long-term resource management and conflict resolution even between hostile neighbors.

132. (D) People of a specific origin living outside their home country.
In the context of international relations, a diaspora refers to a community of people who live outside their original homeland but maintain a strong connection to it. For India, its large and successful diaspora acts as a significant strategic asset, contributing through remittances, investment, and cultural promotion. They also serve as a vital link between India and their host nations, often influencing foreign policy through lobbying and people-to-people diplomacy.

133. (A) 1, 3, 2, 4
The establishment of major international groupings involving India began with SAARC in 1985 for South Asian cooperation. BIMSTEC was later formed in 1997 to focus on the Bay of Bengal region. The initial formulation of the Quad took place in 2007, while BRICS held its first summit in 2009. This timeline reflects India's evolving engagement with different regional and global platforms to advance its diverse interests.

134. (B) The extent of defense exports and maritime exercises.
To evaluate the security effectiveness of the Act East policy, an analyst should focus on the extent of India's defense exports to Southeast Asian nations and the frequency of joint maritime exercises. These activities demonstrate a deep level of strategic trust and cooperation. Success in this domain indicates that India is effectively building the security partnerships necessary to ensure regional stability and a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific.

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ISA aims to promote the widespread adoption of solar energy to combat climate change. Its presence in India underscores the country's growing leadership in global environmental diplomacy and its commitment to sustainable development through international cooperation and technological innovation.

120. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
The "Act East" policy expands the geographic scope of the earlier "Look East" policy to include the broader East Asia and Indo-Pacific regions. It emphasizes a more proactive approach, incorporating strategic and security dimensions alongside economic ones. Furthermore, ASEAN remains central to this policy, acting as the institutional core of India's engagement with the region and its efforts to build deeper political and cultural linkages.

121. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
India has consistently refused to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty because it considers the agreement to be fundamentally discriminatory. The treaty creates a permanent divide between five recognized nuclear-weapon states and all other non-nuclear states, which India believes is unfair and does not promote universal disarmament. This principled stance is rooted in India's desire for a more equitable global nuclear order while maintaining its own strategic autonomy and security.

122. (A) Israel and Palestine
The term "De-hyphenation" is most notably associated with India's policy toward Israel and Palestine. In recent years, India has moved toward maintaining distinct and independent relationships with both entities, rather than viewing them through a single, interconnected lens. This allows India to deepen its strategic and technological partnership with Israel while continuing to support the cause of a sovereign Palestinian state, based on its own national interests and principles.

123. (D) Addressing regional security and Eurasian cooperation.
The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is a permanent intergovernmental international organization primarily focused on managing regional security and promoting cooperation across Eurasia. Its mandate includes combating the "three evils" of terrorism, separatism, and extremism, as well as enhancing economic and cultural ties among its members. India's membership in the SCO provides a platform to engage with Central Asian Republics and address regional stability and security challenges collectively.

124. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
The Supply Chain Resilience Initiative aims to mitigate dependency on single manufacturing hubs like China. The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure focuses on building systems that can withstand natural disasters and climate change. Project Mausam seeks to re-establish historical maritime and cultural links in the Indian Ocean. Lastly, Vaccine Maitri involved the global supply of COVID-19 vaccines, showcasing India's role as a humanitarian and pharmaceutical leader.

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125. (C) The G20 is primarily a collective defense alliance.
The G20 is an international forum for economic cooperation and global governance, not a collective defense alliance. While it addresses security issues that impact the economy, its primary focus is on financial stability and sustainable growth. The forum consists of major economies and the European Union, and during its 2023 presidency in New Delhi, India oversaw the historic admission of the African Union as a permanent member.

126. (D) Pragmatic, focusing on economic and investment diplomacy.
Since the 1991 economic reforms, India's foreign policy has become increasingly pragmatic, with a heavy focus on economic and investment diplomacy. The integration into global markets necessitated a shift toward securing foreign direct investment, expanding trade networks, and ensuring energy security. This approach prioritizes national economic growth and technical cooperation, using diplomacy as a tool to support India's domestic developmental goals and enhance its global economic influence.

61. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
While soft power is a valuable tool for building goodwill, it has clear limitations in resolving hard security disputes like border conflicts. This is because soft power relies on attraction and persuasion, which are often insufficient to deter physical aggression or territorial expansionism. In such scenarios, a state must employ hard power, such as military strength and strategic deterrence, to protect its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

62. (D) India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS)
The India-Africa Forum Summit is the primary diplomatic framework established by India to engage with the African continent collectively. These summits provide a platform for discussing cooperation in areas like trade, technology transfer, and capacity building. By institutionalizing this engagement, India demonstrates its commitment to South-South cooperation and its desire to build long-term, mutually beneficial partnerships with African nations.

63. (A) India champions the principle of CBDR.
India's climate change diplomacy is centered on the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities. This principle asserts that while all nations must address climate change, developed countries should take the lead due to their historical emissions. India has ratified the Paris Agreement and committed to net-zero emissions by 2070, emphasizing that global efforts must account for the developmental needs of poorer nations.

64. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
The "Connect Central Asia" policy specifically targets the Central Asian Republics. SAGAR is focused on the Indian Ocean Region. The "Act East" policy expands India's reach into Southeast Asia and beyond, while "Neighbourhood First" prioritizes engagement with countries sharing immediate borders with India. Each initiative reflects a tailored strategic approach to different geographic regions critical to India's national interests.

65. (B) China supports India's bid for a permanent UNSC seat.
While India and China have significant trade relations and an undemarcated Line of Actual Control, China has not explicitly supported India's bid for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council. Instead, China often remains ambiguous or places conditions on its support. The two countries also share a complex history, including the 1962 border war and ongoing tensions over territorial claims.

66. (A) Adopt multi-alignment and issue-based partnerships.
The shift from a unipolar to a multipolar world order has prompted India to adopt a strategy of multi-alignment. This approach involves engaging with multiple centers of power through issue-based partnerships rather than joining rigid blocs. By maintaining strategic autonomy, India can protect its interests and maximize its influence in a complex global environment characterized by shifting alliances and diverse centers of authority.

67. (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
The Look East Policy was launched by Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao with an initial focus on economic integration with ASEAN. It was later upgraded to the Act East Policy in 2014 to include deeper strategic engagement. However, India never joined the Warsaw Pact, which was a Cold War military alliance led by the Soviet Union. India remained non-aligned throughout that era.

68. (D) Yoga - International Day of Yoga declared by the UN
The United Nations' declaration of the International Day of Yoga is a major international recognition of one of India's most significant soft power assets. This global celebration highlights the universal appeal of traditional Indian practices and their contribution to global health and well-being. Other elements like Bollywood and the IT sector also project India's influence, but Yoga's UN recognition is a unique diplomatic achievement.

69. (C) Led to sanctions followed by de facto nuclear status.
The 1998 Pokhran II nuclear tests initially resulted in immediate international sanctions, particularly from the United States and its allies. However, through persistent diplomacy, India eventually achieved de facto recognition

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135. (D) The US has declared India as a "Major Defense Partner".
A significant development in bilateral relations is that the United States has officially declared India a "Major Defense Partner." This unique status allows for closer military cooperation, easier access to advanced defense technology, and increased joint research and development. Contrary to other options, trade has generally grown, the US supports India's MTCR membership, and both nations share several forums in the Indo-Pacific like the Quad.

136. (A) Hambantota Port - Managed directly by the Indian Navy
The Hambantota Port is located in Sri Lanka and is currently managed by Chinese entities under a long-term lease, not by the Indian Navy. Other pairs are correct: Sittwe Port in Myanmar and Chabahar Port in Iran are key Indian-backed projects. The Agalega Islands facility in Mauritius is another strategic maritime project involving India to enhance regional security and maritime domain awareness in the Indian Ocean.

137. (C) Maintaining strategic neutrality and pursuing dialogue.
Regarding the Russia-Ukraine conflict, India has maintained a stance of strategic neutrality, refusing to join Western economic sanctions or take sides in the military conflict. Instead, India has consistently advocated for an immediate cessation of violence and a return to the path of dialogue and diplomacy. This approach allows India to protect its varied strategic interests while upholding its commitment to international peace and the UN Charter.

138. (A) Successful resource-sharing and conflict management.
The implementation of the Indus Water Treaty serves as a successful case study for transboundary resource-sharing and conflict management. Despite the ongoing political and military tensions between India and Pakistan, the treaty has provided a stable and resilient framework for dividing the waters of the Indus basin for over six decades. Its survival through several wars highlights the effectiveness of clear technical agreements and international mediation in managing critical resources.

139. (D) Jawaharlal Nehru
Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru is widely recognized as the principal architect of India's Non-Aligned Policy. Under his leadership, India sought to remain independent of the two competing power blocs during the Cold War. This policy was aimed at preserving national sovereignty, promoting world peace, and allowing newly independent nations to focus on their own socio-economic development without being drawn into the ideological and military conflicts of the superpowers.

140. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
India's "Look East" policy was initially driven by economic imperatives as the country sought new markets and investment following the end of the Cold War. In contrast, the "Act East" policy represents an evolution that incorporates significant strategic and security dimensions alongside economic cooperation. It involves deeper defense ties and more institutionalized partnerships across the broader Indo-Pacific, reflecting India's expanding role as a major regional actor.

141. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Soft power has become a critical tool in India's diplomatic strategy because it builds long-term international goodwill. Elements such as cultural exports, civilizational links, and democratic credentials naturally attract other nations and enhance India's global reputation. This attraction allows India to influence others through persuasion and positive association rather than coercion, making it an essential complement to traditional hard power in a globalized and interconnected world.

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142. (D) Connectivity with Central Asia and the Persian Gulf.
The Ashgabat Agreement is a multimodal transport agreement aimed at establishing an international transport and transit corridor between Central Asia and the Persian Gulf. India's accession to this agreement reflects its strategic interest in enhancing connectivity with the landlocked Central Asian Republics. By utilizing this corridor, India can improve its trade links and energy security while bypassing

manage the refugee crisis. The treaty provided India with necessary diplomatic support and a security guarantee from a superpower, enabling it to act decisively to resolve the conflict and protect its interests.

159. (A) China
The "Chennai Connect" refers to the second informal summit between the leaders of India and China, held in Mamallapuram near Chennai in 2019. Like the earlier Wuhan summit, this meeting was designed to foster a personal rapport between the heads of state and provide a platform for open, high-level dialogue on sensitive bilateral and global issues. It represented an attempt to manage the complex relationship through direct, informal communication at the highest level.

160. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.
The "Look East" policy was never purely cultural; it was heavily driven by economic imperatives to integrate with ASEAN from its inception. The "Act East" policy correctly expands this engagement by incorporating significant strategic and security dimensions, as well as institutional partnerships across the Indo-Pacific. This evolution reflects India's more proactive stance in regional affairs and its commitment to playing a larger role in maintaining regional stability.

161. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
India has officially declined to join China's Belt and Road Initiative, primarily because the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. India maintains that this territory is an integral part of its sovereign land, and the construction of the corridor without its consent violates its sovereignty. This core concern about territorial integrity directly explains India's firm and consistent refusal to participate in the broader BRI framework.

162. (A) Farakka Barrage Treaty
The Farakka Barrage Treaty, signed in 1996, is the bilateral agreement between India and Bangladesh governing the sharing of the Ganges River's waters. It aims to ensure a fair distribution of water during the dry season, balancing the needs of both countries for irrigation, navigation, and environmental protection. This treaty remains a cornerstone of the bilateral relationship and is a key example of managing transboundary water resources through formal diplomatic agreements.

163. (C) Independent decision-making unaffected by external pressure.
Strategic autonomy in India's foreign policy refers to the nation's commitment to making independent decisions based on its own national interests, free from the undue influence or pressure of external powers. This principle allows India to engage with various global actors on an issue-by-issue basis and to avoid being drawn into rigid alliances that could limit its diplomatic flexibility. It is fundamental to India's identity as a major, independent global player.

164. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
De-hyphenation refers to India's separate relations with Israel and Palestine. The "String of Pearls" is a concept associated with China's maritime outposts. "Connect Central Asia" focuses on strengthening ties with the Central Asian Republics. Lastly, the "Act East" policy is India's framework for deep economic and strategic engagement with ASEAN and the broader Indo-Pacific, reflecting a more proactive and multifaceted approach to the region.

165. (C) It is an Asian NATO with binding mutual defense pacts.
Although the Quad—consisting of India, Japan, the US, and Australia—cooperates on security, it is not an "Asian NATO" and does not have a binding mutual defense pact. Instead, it is an informal strategic forum focused on non-traditional security threats like climate change, vaccine distribution, and supply chain resilience. Members work together to promote a free and open Indo-Pacific through dialogue, joint exercises, and shared principles rather than a formal military alliance.

166. (B) The threat of US sanctions under CAATSA legislation.
India's decision to acquire the S-400 missile system from Russia led to the significant threat of US sanctions under the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act. This situation tested the strategic partnership between India and the US, as India asserted its right to

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151. (D) Adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.
While India has successfully secured global consensus on the International Day of Yoga, the International Solar Alliance, and the G20 New Delhi Declaration, it has struggled to achieve the final adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. Despite decades of advocacy, disagreements among UN member states over the definition of terrorism and "freedom fighters" have prevented the treaty from being finalized and implemented as a binding international legal framework.

152. (A) Unofficial, non-governmental dialogues for conflict resolution.
Track II diplomacy involves unofficial and non-governmental dialogues between academics, retired officials, and other non-state actors from different countries. These discussions are intended to explore creative solutions to conflicts and build trust in a less formal environment than official government negotiations. While they are not legally binding, Track II initiatives often provide valuable insights and lay the groundwork for formal diplomatic breakthroughs and improved bilateral relations.

153. (C) Forging strategic technology partnerships like the iCET.
India's current strategy for securing critical technologies and resilient supply chains involves forging strategic technology partnerships, such as the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology with the United States. This approach emphasizes collaborative research, development, and standard-setting in fields like AI, space, and semiconductors. By working with like-minded partners, India aims to enhance its indigenous capabilities while ensuring it remains part of the global technological and economic mainstream.

154. (A) Public diplomacy, cultural centres, and media outreach.
To counter negative narratives and improve its international image, India should competently focus on public diplomacy, cultural centers, and broad media outreach. This involves actively communicating its values, achievements, and policies to a global audience to build a more accurate and positive perception. By leveraging its soft power through these channels, India can influence global public opinion and foster better understanding and support for its national interests.

155. (D) India and Pakistan joined the SCO simultaneously in 2017.
A key fact about the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is that both India and Pakistan were admitted as full members simultaneously during the Astana summit in 2017. While India is not a founding member, it actively participates in the group's activities, including the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure. The SCO provides India with a valuable platform for engaging with Eurasian powers and addressing shared challenges related to regional security and economic cooperation.

156. (B) IISS Shangri-La Dialogue - Exclusively organized by the Indian government
The Shangri-La Dialogue is an independent think-tank-led forum organized by the International Institute for Strategic Studies in Singapore, not by the Indian government. Other platforms are correctly matched: the Raisina Dialogue is India's premier geopolitics conference, the Delhi Dialogue focuses on ASEAN-India relations, and the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium is a significant maritime security forum involving several littoral states of the Indian Ocean.

157. (C) Combining military capacity with development and culture.
Smart power is the strategic combination of hard power tools, like military and economic strength, with soft power assets like culture, diplomacy, and development assistance. An example of India using smart power is providing developmental aid and cultural engagement in regions where it also maintains a strong security presence. This dual approach allows a country to achieve its goals by being both powerful and attractive, ensuring more sustainable and effective international influence.

158. (D) The US-China-Pakistan axis during the 1971 war.
The 1971 Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation was a strategic response to the emerging geopolitical axis between the United States, China, and Pakistan during the Bangladesh Liberation War. This alignment threatened India's security and its efforts to

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geographic and political obstacles in its immediate neighborhood.

143. (A) It refers to Chinese strategic outposts; India responds with SAGAR.
The "String of Pearls" refers to China's strategic network of naval bases and maritime facilities in the Indian Ocean. India's primary response to this perceived encirclement is the SAGAR initiative, which focuses on security and growth for all in the region. Through SAGAR, India aims to build collaborative maritime partnerships, enhance its own naval presence, and promote a stable, rules-based order that ensures free and open access to the ocean.

144. (A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
ITEC focuses on technical and economic capacity building in developing countries. Project Mausam aims to revitalize historical cultural and maritime linkages across the Indian Ocean. SAGAR is the vision for maritime security and cooperation in the region. Lastly, the Neighbourhood First policy prioritizes India's diplomatic and developmental engagement with countries sharing its immediate borders, emphasizing regional stability and mutual growth.

145. (B) BRICS operates as a binding mutual defense treaty.
BRICS is a grouping of major emerging economies focused on economic cooperation and global governance reform, not a binding mutual defense treaty. While its members coordinate on security issues, they do not have a formal commitment to defend each other militarily. The group represents a significant portion of the world's population and GDP, and its activities are primarily centered on financial collaboration, trade, and representing the interests of the Global South.

146. (A) Activities of pro-Khalistan extremist elements in Canada.
Recent strains in bilateral relations between India and Canada have been primarily caused by the activities of pro-Khalistan extremist elements operating within Canada. India has repeatedly raised concerns about the safety of its diplomats and the use of Canadian soil for separatist activities. These security and sovereignty concerns have led to a significant diplomatic rift, impacting various levels of engagement and communication between the two governments.

147. (A) 1, 2, and 3 only
India's extended neighborhood includes the Gulf region for energy and the diaspora, and Southeast Asia under the Act East policy. Technically, India also shares a land border with Afghanistan via the Wakhan Corridor. However, the claim that India has no interest in Western Indian Ocean island nations is incorrect; India maintains significant strategic and developmental ties with countries like Mauritius and Seychelles to enhance its maritime security.

148. (D) Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) - Pacific engagement
The Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation is the correct platform for India's diplomatic and developmental engagement with Pacific Island nations. Other pairs are incorrect: the India-Nordic Summit involves Northern European countries; IBSA is a forum for India, Brazil, and South Africa; and Mekong-Ganga Cooperation focuses on cultural and economic ties between India and Southeast Asian nations, specifically those along the Mekong river.

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149. (C) Strategic Restraint giving way to Pre-emptive Deterrence.
The 2016 surgical strikes across the Line of Control marked a significant shift in India's response to cross-border terrorism. It signaled that the era of absolute strategic restraint had given way to a policy of pre-emptive deterrence and active response. By taking direct military action against terror launch pads, India demonstrated its resolve to protect its national security and hold perpetrators accountable, departing from earlier, more passive diplomatic stances.

150. (A) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
India maintains diverse strategic relationships involving joint military exercises with the US, nuclear power collaboration with Russia, and development projects with Japan. It also actively opposes China's BRI on sovereignty grounds. The statement that the EU is irrelevant to technology and data regulations is incorrect, as the EU is a critical partner in setting global standards that India actively engages with for its own digital and environmental policies.

diversify its defense imports and maintain its strategic autonomy. The issue highlighted the complexities of managing relations with multiple major powers while pursuing national security interests.

167. (B) 3 and 4 only
India's soft power is a blend of ancient heritage and modern initiatives. The global spread of Yoga is a prime example of its cultural influence, while modern exercises like "Vaccine Maitri" further enhance its international reputation. Contrary to other claims, soft power has roots in ancient Indian history, and the diaspora plays a crucial role in promoting India's culture and values across the globe.

168. (A) IORA (Indian Ocean Rim Association) - Full Member
India is a full member and a leading player in the Indian Ocean Rim Association, which focuses on regional cooperation among littoral states. India is not a full member of the G7, although it is frequently invited as a guest. Similarly, India is a dialogue partner of ASEAN but not a full member, and it currently holds observer status rather than full membership in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum.

169. (C) The Arctic Council (as an Observer state)
To assert its presence and protect its scientific and strategic interests in the Arctic region, India must competently engage with the Arctic Council, where it currently holds observer status. This involvement allows India to participate in discussions on climate change, environmental protection, and sustainable development in the Arctic. Given the region's impact on global weather patterns and potential future trade routes, active engagement with the Council is essential for India.

170. (B) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
India's extended neighborhood policy is multifaceted, involving the International North-South Transport Corridor for Central Asia, the SAGAR initiative for the Indian Ocean, and the strategic Chabahar port in Iran. India also engages deeply with the GCC for energy security. The claim that India has zero engagement with Pacific Island nations is incorrect, as it actively participates in the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation to strengthen regional ties.

171. (D) It applies to relations with major powers like the US.
The Gujral Doctrine specifically outlines principles for India's relations with its immediate, smaller neighbors in South Asia, such as Nepal, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. It does not apply to relations with major global powers like the United States or Russia. The doctrine's focus is on building trust and regional cooperation within the subcontinent through non-reciprocity, non-interference, and respect for sovereignty among the South Asian neighboring states.

172. (B) Using economic tools to advance geopolitical objectives.
Geoeconomics in the context of foreign policy refers to a state's use of economic instruments—such as trade, investment, and developmental aid—to achieve its geopolitical and strategic objectives. For India, this involves leveraging its growing economy to build stronger international partnerships, secure energy supplies, and influence regional dynamics. It reflects the understanding that economic strength is a fundamental component of national power and a critical tool for advancing national interests globally.

173. (A) 1, 3, 4, 2
Major landmarks in India-China relations began with the 1954 Panchsheel Agreement, followed by the 1962 border war. In 1993, both nations signed an important agreement to maintain peace and tranquility along the Line of Actual Control. However, this stability was severely tested by the 2020 Galwan Valley standoff, which represented the most significant military clash between the two countries in several decades and fundamentally altered the bilateral relationship.

174. (D) To mitigate risks and enhance strategic autonomy.
India's push to diversify its defense imports away from a single supplier is primarily driven by the need to mitigate strategic risks and enhance its strategic autonomy. Relying on multiple sources for military hardware prevents over-dependence on any one nation, which could be problematic during international crises or shifts in geopolitical

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championed the Global South. The statement that India has never engaged in a military conflict since 1971 is incorrect, as notable examples include the 1999 Kargil war and various other significant border standoffs and military engagements over the decades.

191. (A) UN Security Council intervention
The Indus Water Treaty provides a structured mechanism for resolving disputes, including the Permanent Indus Commission for regular consultation, a Neutral Expert for technical differences, and a Court of Arbitration for more serious legal issues. However, it does not include direct United Nations Security Council intervention as a recognized form of dispute resolution. This internal and technical framework has been key to the treaty's long-term survival and effectiveness.

192. (B) Maintaining parallel relations with competing global powers.
Multi-alignment is a diplomatic strategy where a country maintains parallel, functional relationships with several competing global powers simultaneously. This approach allows the nation to avoid being drawn into exclusive blocs and to protect its strategic autonomy. By engaging with various partners based on specific national interests and issue-based coalitions, a country like India can maximize its influence and maintain stability in a complex, multipolar international environment.

193. (B) To ensure developing nations' challenges are prioritized.
India emphasized the "Global South" narrative during its G20 presidency to ensure that the developmental challenges and priorities of developing nations—such as food security, climate finance, and debt distress—were placed at the center of the global agenda. By acting as a bridge between developed and developing countries, India sought to make the G20 more inclusive and responsive to the needs of the majority of the world's population.

194. (A) Extending economic and material assistance to Sri Lanka.
Providing significant economic and material assistance to Sri Lanka during its recent financial crisis is a clear application of India's "Neighbourhood First" policy. This action demonstrates India's role as a first responder and a reliable partner in times of need for its neighbors. By offering support without immediate reciprocity, India builds trust and stability in the region, which is essential for its own long-term security and economic prosperity.

195. (C) India has been a non-permanent UNSC member eight times.
India has been elected as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council eight times, reflecting its significant international standing and commitment to global peace and security. Other options are incorrect: India actively supports the Sustainable Development Goals, its financial contribution is not the world's highest, and it remains one of the largest and most consistent contributors of troops to UN peacekeeping missions globally, rather than withdrawing from them.

196. (D) Delhi Dialogue - United States
The Delhi Dialogue is a premier forum for ASEAN-India relations and is organized in India, not the United States. Other pairs are correct: the Raisina Dialogue is hosted by India, the Shangri-La Dialogue takes place in Singapore, and the Munich Security Conference is a well-known event in Germany. These platforms provide vital opportunities for discussing geopolitics and security with various international partners and stakeholders.

197. (C) Credible Minimum Deterrence
The core principle of India's Nuclear Doctrine is "Credible Minimum Deterrence," combined with a "No First Use" policy. This means that India maintains a nuclear arsenal just sufficient to deter an adversary from initiating a nuclear attack, with the capability for a retaliatory strike. This posture is intended to signal strategic restraint and defensive intent while ensuring national security in an environment where other regional powers also possess nuclear capabilities.

198. (B) Concerns that cheap imports would harm domestic industries.
India's refusal to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership was primarily caused by concerns that the agreement would lead to a flood of cheap imports, particularly from China.

on the international stage. Through the G20, India aims to promote sustainable and inclusive global growth while enhancing its own role as a responsible global leader.

183. (B) Mutual respect, mutual sensitivity, and mutual interests.
The "Three Mutuals"—mutual respect, mutual sensitivity, and mutual interests—are the core principles that India frequently cites as essential for maintaining a stable and healthy relationship with China. India believes that adhering to these principles is necessary to manage the complexities and tensions in the bilateral relationship, particularly regarding border issues and regional influence. Respecting each other's sovereignty and concerns is seen as the foundation for any meaningful long-term cooperation.

184. (A) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3
India's foreign policy has evolved through distinct phases: the early era of optimistic non-alignment, a complex phase involving a strategic tilt toward the USSR, and a post-1991 period focused on pragmatic economic diplomacy. Since 2014, the policy has become more proactive and assertive, characterized by multi-alignment and a greater emphasis on strategic autonomy. These phases reflect India's adaptation to changing global geopolitical and economic environments over several decades.

185. (C) NAM requires its members to form military pacts.
The Non-Aligned Movement was established specifically to allow developing nations to avoid joining Cold War military pacts or alliances. Therefore, the statement that NAM requires its members to form military pacts is incorrect. Instead, NAM focuses on promoting national independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, while advocating against colonialism and for peaceful co-existence. India remains a key member of NAM, valuing its role as a platform for the interests of developing countries.

186. (A) Enhanced interoperability and logistical support.
The signing of the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement between India and the United States has led to significantly enhanced military interoperability and logistical support. This agreement allows both militaries to access each other's facilities for refueling and replenishment, facilitating more effective joint exercises and disaster relief operations. It is a foundational pact that has helped deepen the strategic defense partnership between the two nations while respecting India's sovereign operational control.

187. (B) 1, 2, and 4 only
India's soft power is successfully projected through the global promotion of Ayurveda, the cultural work of the ICCR, and the widespread popularity of Bollywood. These initiatives build goodwill and positive international perceptions. However, soft power by definition avoids the use of threats or coercion; therefore, the claim that India uses it to explicitly threaten smaller nations is incorrect and contrary to the fundamental principles of soft power diplomacy.

188. (B) Rafale fighter jets - Imported from France
The Rafale fighter jets are advanced multi-role aircraft imported from France, representing a major defense deal between the two countries. Other pairs are incorrect: the S-400 system is from Russia, the C-17 Globemaster is from the US, and the BrahMos missile is a joint development between India and Russia. These acquisitions reflect India's strategy of diversifying its defense imports to ensure national security and maintain strategic autonomy.

189. (C) FIPIC (Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation)
To competently increase its presence and influence in the Pacific Island nations, an Indian diplomat should utilize the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation. This framework facilitates high-level dialogue and cooperation on issues such as climate change, disaster management, and sustainable development. By engaging through FIPIC, India demonstrates its commitment to the concerns of small island developing states and strengthens its role as a partner in the broader Indo-Pacific region.

190. (A) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
India's foreign policy evolution is marked by economic reforms in 1991, becoming a nuclear state in 1998, and the transition to a proactive "Act East" policy. India has also consistently

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undermined regional cooperation and has led to the suspension of high-level summits and the blocking of several connectivity and trade initiatives. While the organization remains a formal platform, the lack of political trust between its two largest members has prevented it from achieving deep regional integration.

207. (A) 1, 2, and 4 only
India and the European Union have a strong strategic partnership, highlighted by the Trade and Technology Council and cooperation in the IT sector. While they engage in negotiations for a Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement, these talks have faced challenges. Furthermore, India does not fully adopt EU data privacy laws; instead, it develops its own regulatory frameworks that may align with or differ from EU standards based on its national requirements.

208. (B) Paris Climate Agreement - Signatory
India is a signatory to and has ratified the Paris Climate Agreement, committing to significant national goals for reducing emissions and increasing renewable energy. India is not a signatory to the NPT or the CTBT, as it considers them discriminatory or insufficient for universal disarmament. However, India is a signatory to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, which it utilizes to define and protect its maritime boundaries and interests.

209. (B) Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR-RC).
In climate negotiations, India relies heavily on the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities. This principle argues that while all countries should contribute to environmental protection, developed nations should take the lead due to their historical responsibility for global emissions. This approach allows India to balance its urgent developmental needs with its commitment to global climate targets, advocating for an equitable and fair distribution of the burden and climate finance.

210. (A) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
India maintains deep and multifaceted relationships with Russia, the US, Japan, and France, involving defense, summits, and infrastructure projects. However, India has not fully endorsed China's Global Security Initiative, as it remains cautious about China's regional strategic goals and has its own sovereign concerns, particularly regarding border disputes. India's engagement with major powers is guided by its policy of multi-alignment and its focus on protecting its national interests and strategic autonomy.

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211. (C) Coercive trade embargoes
Soft power is the ability to influence others through attraction and persuasion, utilizing tools like culture, values, and democratic institutions. Therefore, coercive trade embargoes are not a form of soft power; they are tools of hard power that rely on economic pressure and force. India's soft power is best represented by its Buddhist heritage, its global IT workforce, and the international reach of its vibrant cinema and cultural traditions.

212. (B) Participation of state governments in global relations.
Paradiplomacy refers to the active involvement of sub-national or regional governments, such as India's states, in international relations and diplomacy. This can include states organizing global investment summits, signing cultural agreements with foreign provinces, or participating in international trade forums. By engaging in paradiplomacy, state governments can directly attract foreign investment and promote their own regional interests, complementing the central government's broader foreign policy objectives and economic goals.

213. (A) 1, 2, 3
India's leadership in global environmental initiatives is reflected in the chronological launch of these organizations: the International Solar Alliance in 2015 at the Paris climate summit, the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure in 2019 at the UN, and the Global Biofuel Alliance in 2023 during its G20 presidency. This timeline demonstrates India's increasing commitment to spearheading international cooperation for sustainable development, climate resilience, and the transition to renewable energy sources.

There were fears that this would significantly harm domestic manufacturing, agriculture, and dairy sectors, leading to a massive trade deficit. Protecting the interests of local producers and ensuring a level playing field were the decisive factors in India's decision to opt out.

199. (D) Myanmar
The Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project is designed to connect the Indian port of Kolkata with the Sittwe Port in Myanmar. From Sittwe, the route moves inland along the Kaladan River to Mizoram, providing a vital alternative link to India's landlocked Northeast. This strategic project reduces dependency on the narrow Siliguri Corridor and enhances economic and infrastructure connectivity between India and Myanmar, supporting the broader "Act East" policy goals.

200. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.
India's strategic partnerships with the United States and Russia are not mutually exclusive; instead, India successfully maintains strong ties with both nations through issue-based diplomacy. While the two powers may be at odds globally, India engages with each based on its own national interests, such as defense cooperation with Russia and technological partnerships with the US. This approach is a practical application of India's commitment to strategic autonomy and multi-alignment.

201. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Indian diaspora is a vital asset for the country's foreign policy because they significantly contribute to the national economy through remittances and investments. Furthermore, the diaspora often influences the policies of their host countries in India's favor through lobbying and people-to-people diplomacy. This dual economic and diplomatic impact directly supports the assertion that the overseas Indian community is a strategic resource for enhancing India's global influence and interests.

202. (A) P.V. Narasimha Rao
Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao initiated the "Look East" policy in the early 1990s. This strategic shift was a response to the changing global order after the Cold War and the need for India to integrate its economy with the fast-growing markets of Southeast Asia. By prioritizing relations with ASEAN nations, the policy marked the beginning of India's more intensive engagement with East Asia, which has since evolved into the broader "Act East" policy.

203. (D) It is an informal forum for a free Indo-Pacific.
The Quad—comprising India, Japan, the United States, and Australia—is an informal strategic forum, not a binding military treaty. It was re-established in 2017 to promote a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific and to coordinate on shared challenges like maritime security, climate change, and critical technologies. While China is a major regional power, it is not an observer state in the Quad, and the group does not have a formal mutual defense pact.

204. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
SAGAR focuses on security and cooperation in the Indian Ocean. The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure aims to build systems that can withstand natural calamities. The iCET is a strategic initiative between India and the US focusing on critical and emerging technologies like AI and space. Lastly, the CCIT is India's proposed international legal framework to define and combat international terrorism through the United Nations.

205. (C) It forced India to sign the NPT as a non-nuclear state.
The India-US Civil Nuclear Agreement did not force India to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as a non-nuclear state. Instead, it was a landmark deal that allowed India access to global civilian nuclear technology and fuel despite being a non-signatory to the NPT. India was required to separate its civilian and military nuclear facilities and place the former under IAEA safeguards, successfully ending its international nuclear isolation while preserving its strategic capabilities.

206. (D) Bilateral hostility, particularly between India and Pakistan.
The stagnation of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation is primarily caused by the long-standing bilateral hostility between India and Pakistan. This conflict has consistently

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alignments. This strategy also encourages technological competition and supports India's long-term goal of increasing indigenous defense production through various partnerships.

175. (A) A neighbor is a natural enemy and their neighbor a friend.
The Mandal Theory, formulated by Kautilya in the ancient text Arthashastra, is a geopolitical concept that describes the strategic environment of a state. Its central premise is that a state's immediate neighbor is a natural enemy, while the neighbor of that neighbor is a natural friend. This theory emphasizes the importance of balancing regional power dynamics and forming strategic alliances to ensure a state's security and successful expansion of influence.

176. (B) Abraham Accords - Opposed by India
India did not oppose the Abraham Accords; in fact, it welcomed the normalization of relations between Israel and several Arab nations, as it aligns with India's interest in regional stability. Other pairs are correct: I2U2 includes India, Israel, UAE, and the US; Chabahar is located in Iran; and "De-hyphenation" refers to India's independent, high-level bilateral relations with both Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

177. (B) Prioritizing engagement with neighbors for integration.
India's "Neighbourhood First" policy is a cornerstone of its foreign policy that prioritizes building strong, mutually beneficial relations with its immediate neighbors. The goal is to enhance regional integration through improved connectivity, economic cooperation, and proactive diplomatic engagement. By investing in the stability and prosperity of its neighbors, India aims to create a secure and supportive regional environment that facilitates its own growth and strengthens its leadership in South Asia.

178. (A) South-South Cooperation and capacity building.
Providing significant lines of credit and developmental assistance to African nations under the India-Africa Forum Summit framework is a prime example of South-South Cooperation. This approach focuses on mutual benefit, capacity building, and technical expertise sharing between developing nations. It reflects India's commitment to the developmental goals of the Global South and its desire to build long-term, equitable partnerships that are distinct from traditional colonial or exploitative models.

179. (C) United States
As of recent geopolitical and economic realignments, the United States has emerged as India's largest trading partner. This status reflects the deepening economic ties and the increasing volume of bilateral trade in goods and services between the two nations. The shift highlights the growing strategic and economic convergence between India and the US, which has surpassed trade volumes with other major partners like China in several recent fiscal years.

180. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
India has long supported a "two-state solution" and the realization of a sovereign, independent, and viable State of Palestine. However, the second statement is incorrect, as India maintains a very strong and multifaceted diplomatic, strategic, and technological relationship with Israel. India's modern approach is to "de-hyphenate" these two relationships, allowing it to maintain independent and productive ties with both parties based on its national interests.

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181. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
India has increasingly focused on BIMSTEC as a more viable alternative for regional cooperation, as SAARC has become largely dysfunctional. This institutional shift is directly caused by the persistent bilateral tensions and obstructionism from Pakistan, which have hindered regional connectivity and economic integration within the SAARC framework. By prioritizing BIMSTEC, India can effectively engage with other neighbors who share its vision for a more integrated and prosperity of the Bay of Bengal region.

182. (B) To reform global governance and represent the Global South.
A primary objective of India's participation in the G20 is to advocate for reforms in global governance to better reflect contemporary realities. India also seeks to act as a voice for the Global South, ensuring that the developmental challenges and perspectives of developing nations are prioritized

214. (B) India is a major troop contributor seeking greater say.
India's current strategy regarding UN Peacekeeping is that of a major troop-contributing country that is also seeking a greater say in the decision-making processes of these missions. India has a long and distinguished history of participating in numerous peacekeeping operations worldwide. As a significant stakeholder, it advocates for better equipment, clearer mandates, and a more inclusive process that involves troop-contributing nations in the strategic planning and oversight of UN operations.

215. (D) It provides financing for infrastructure in emerging economies.
The New Development Bank, established by the BRICS nations, is primarily focused on providing financing for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in emerging economies and developing countries. It is headquartered in Shanghai, not New Delhi, and its purpose is economic development rather than funding military operations. The bank serves as an alternative to traditional Western-led financial institutions, offering more representative and flexible financing options for its members and other developing states.

216. (A) Durand Line - India and Nepal
The Durand Line is the border between Pakistan and Afghanistan, not India and Nepal. The border between India and Nepal is an open international boundary established by various historical treaties. Other pairs are correct: the Line of Control separates Indian and Pakistani-held Kashmir, the Radcliffe Line is the border with Pakistan and Bangladesh, and the Line of Actual Control is the de facto boundary between India and China.

217. (C) To enhance economic, strategic, and cultural relations.
The primary objective of the "Act East" policy is to enhance India's economic, strategic, and cultural relations with Southeast Asian and East Asian nations, as well as the broader Indo-Pacific. It represents a more proactive and multifaceted approach than its predecessor, prioritizing regional connectivity, defense cooperation, and institutional linkages. By deepening these ties, India aims to foster a more stable, inclusive, and prosperous regional order that supports its own developmental and strategic goals.

218. (A) Stabilizing relations following border tensions like Doklam.
The informal summits that led to the "Wuhan Spirit" and "Chennai Connect" were primarily aimed at stabilizing bilateral relations between India and China following a period of intense border tensions, notably the 2017 Doklam standoff. These meetings provided a platform for high-level, candid discussions between the leaders, intended to improve communication, manage differences more effectively, and build a strategic consensus to prevent future escalations and maintain regional stability through direct personal engagement.

219. (D) G20
The ancient Indian concept of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," which translates to "The world is one family," was the central theme emphasized during India's presidency of the G20 in 2023. This philosophy underpinned India's vision of a more inclusive and cooperative global order, focusing on shared solutions to common challenges like climate change, economic inequality, and digital transformation. By promoting this universal message, India sought to foster global solidarity and highlight its civilizational values on the world stage.

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220. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
India correctly considers the Indian Ocean Region as its immediate maritime neighborhood, vital for its security and trade. However, the second statement is incorrect; the SAGAR initiative is not designed exclusively for military dominance. Instead, it promotes a collaborative approach to maritime security, ecology, and sustainable economic growth for all nations in the region. It reflects India's commitment to being a responsible regional leader and a net security provider through cooperation rather than unilateral force.

221. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
India and France have built a deep and enduring strategic partnership characterized by a high degree of mutual trust. This is demonstrated

285. (C) Security and strategic initiatives of the latter phase
While the initial economic foundations were important, the current direction of the state's regional policy is primarily defined by the robust security and strategic initiatives introduced during the Act East phase. These modern components reflect a commitment to a more influential and security-conscious role in the region. These initiatives characterize the current era of diplomacy, focusing on comprehensive regional stability.

286. (D) Institutional reforms and equitable representation
When participating in global multilateral forums, a key diplomatic focus is advocating for changes to international institutions to ensure they are more representative and fair. These efforts aim to give a stronger voice to developing nations and update global governance structures. By pushing for such reforms, the state seeks to create a more equitable international system that reflects contemporary geopolitical realities.

287. (C) Multilateralism and global peacekeeping efforts
Interaction with international organizations is defined by a consistent dedication to collaborative global action and participation in international security missions. This commitment to multilateralism underscores the state's belief in shared responsibility and universally applicable norms. By supporting global peacekeeping, the state contributes to international stability and demonstrates its role as a responsible and proactive member of the global community.

288. (B) Balancing national interests with collective global responsibilities
Negotiating in large international forums requires the difficult task of aligning a nation's own specific goals with broader global duties. This balance is necessary to ensure that while national sovereignty is respected, collective problems like security and climate change are addressed effectively. Successfully managing this complexity is essential for a state to be both an influential actor and a responsible global citizen.

289. (D) Climate change, trade, and security
Multilateral platforms provide a significant stage for a state to voice its positions and influence global discussions on critical issues such as the environment, international commerce, and collective safety. These forums amplify a nation's contributions, allowing it to help shape the rules and norms governing these vital areas. Such engagement ensures that the state's perspectives are integrated into global decision-making.

290. (A) Strong collective voice in global decision-making
Active and continuous participation in international organizations ensures that developing nations can maintain a powerful and unified voice in world affairs. This collective influence is vital for shaping global governance architectures and projecting diplomatic power. Ultimately, robust engagement allows the state to ensure that global decisions reflect the interests and needs of a broader, more diverse range of countries.

291. (C) Impact on neighbourhood stability and cooperation
Engaging with regional organizations has a profound effect on the peace and economic partnership within the immediate vicinity. These localized interactions help create a stable environment where neighboring states can collaborate on shared challenges. By fostering this cooperation, the state can reduce regional tensions and build a more cohesive architectural framework for long-term development and mutual security among its neighbors.

292. (A) Cross-border trade and shared security challenges
A central goal when working with regional bodies is the promotion of international commerce and the collective management of security threats. By focusing on these areas, the state can improve connectivity and economic ties with its neighbors. Addressing shared challenges through institutionalized dialogue ensures that the region remains resilient and prosperous, benefiting all member states through increased cooperation and stability.

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229. (C) The Chabahar Port Project in Iran
To bypass Pakistan for trade access to Afghanistan, an Indian policymaker should competently utilize the Chabahar Port project in Iran. This strategic project provides a direct maritime and land route to Afghanistan and Central Asia, significantly reducing dependency on Pakistani territory. By developing this infrastructure, India secures its strategic and economic reach in the region and facilitates its contribution to the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan through a reliable and independent transit corridor.

230. (A) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
India's soft power, including Ayurveda, Vaccine Maitri, and its democratic status, effectively builds global goodwill and influence without coercion. However, the statement that soft power alone is sufficient to resolve territorial disputes like the LAC standoff is incorrect. Hard security challenges involving physical aggression and territorial claims require a robust combination of military deterrence, strategic resolve, and formal diplomatic negotiations, where soft power can only act as a supportive element.

231. (D) INF Treaty
India and the United States have signed several foundational defense agreements, including GSOMIA for intelligence, LEMOA for logistics, and BECA for geospatial data. These are designed to deepen their strategic partnership. The INF Treaty, however, was a bilateral nuclear arms control treaty between the United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War. It is not an agreement between India and the US, nor does it relate to their bilateral defense cooperation.

232. (A) Retaining nuclear capacity to deter a first strike.
Credible Minimum Deterrence is a nuclear policy where a state maintains just enough nuclear weapons to deter an adversary from initiating a first strike, by ensuring the capability for a devastating retaliatory response. For India, this posture signals a commitment to strategic restraint and a "No First Use" policy, while ensuring national security. It avoids an expensive and destabilizing arms race while maintaining the technical and military readiness necessary for effective deterrence in the region.

233. (A) 4, 3, 2, 1
The sequence of major India-Pakistan agreements began with the 1960 Indus Water Treaty. This was followed by the Tashkent Declaration in 1966 after the second war. The 1972 Shimla Agreement established the Line of Control after the third war. Finally, the 1999 Lahore Declaration was an effort to resolve bilateral issues through peaceful dialogue, shortly before the Kargil conflict. This timeline reflects the ongoing attempts to manage a complex and often hostile relationship.

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234. (A) India's weight and peacekeeping contributions.
India's pursuit of a permanent seat on the UN Security Council is primarily justified by its significant global weight as the world's most populous democracy and its long-standing status as a major contributor to UN peacekeeping missions. India argues that the UNSC must be reformed to reflect current geopolitical realities and that its inclusion would make the body more representative, democratic, and effective in its primary mandate of maintaining international peace and security.

235. (D) Japan and India conduct the 'Dharma Guardian' military exercise.
A key aspect of the growing strategic relationship between India and Japan is the conduct of joint military exercises like 'Dharma Guardian.' Other options are incorrect: Japan is a core member of the Quad along with India, bilateral trade is robust and guided by a CEPA, and the two countries share a very deep and historical diplomatic partnership. Their cooperation extends to infrastructure development, maritime security, and a shared vision for a free Indo-Pacific.

236. (B) APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) - India is a full member
India is not a full member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum; it currently holds observer status and has expressed strong interest in becoming a full member. Other pairs are correct: India is a member of the East Asia Summit and the ASEAN Regional Forum, and it is a regular participant in the ADMM-Plus meetings. These memberships reflect India's deep and multifaceted engagement with the security and economic architecture of the broader Asia-Pacific region.

This partnership reflects a commitment to shared values and rules-based governance. By collaborating on these diverse issues, the state strengthens its economic ties with Europe while contributing to the development of global standards for environmental and ethical conduct.

269. (C) Distinctly tailored diplomatic responses
Because interactions with China, Japan, and the European Union involve vastly different challenges and opportunities, the state must employ unique diplomatic strategies for each. A uniform approach would fail to address the specific economic or security nuances of these diverse major powers. Tailored responses allow for the effective management of competition with some actors while maximizing cooperative frameworks with others.

270. (D) Balancing competition with China and cooperation with others
Achieving long-term strategic and economic success requires the ability to balance competitive tensions with some powers, such as China, alongside cooperative partnerships with others, like Japan and the European Union. This equilibrium is vital for navigating complex geopolitical theatres. By successfully managing these diverse dynamics, the state can protect its national interests while fostering broader regional stability and economic growth.

271. (C) Changing global economic paradigms
The Look East policy was originally developed as a strategic response to shifts in the international economic landscape. These changes prompted the need for the state to re-engage with Southeast Asia and adapt to new trade realities. By formulating this policy, the state sought to align its economic trajectory with emerging global trends and foster stronger regional institutional connections.

272. (B) Trade linkages and institutional connections
During its initial stages, the Look East policy focused heavily on establishing firm economic foundations through trade agreements and institutional partnerships with eastern neighbors. This emphasis on economic diplomacy was designed to integrate the domestic economy with rapidly growing markets. By prioritizing these linkages, the state aimed to build a sustainable framework for long-term regional cooperation and shared economic prosperity across Southeast Asia.

273. (D) Integrating the economy with growing markets in the East
The diplomatic strategies executed under the Look East framework were specifically aimed at embedding the national economy into the vibrant and expanding markets of East and Southeast Asia. This integration was seen as essential for future growth and regional relevance. By fostering these connections, the state could leverage the economic dynamism of the region to enhance its own developmental objectives.

274. (A) Focusing on economic diplomacy over security
Scholars have analyzed the early Look East policy for its tendency to prioritize economic engagement at the expense of comprehensive security cooperation. This focus on trade and institutional linkages, while successful in building economic foundations, left a gap in strategic and defense-related regional involvement. Recognizing this limitation is crucial for understanding how the policy later evolved into a more multidimensional approach.

275. (C) Groundwork for deeper, multidimensional engagement
The consistent implementation of the Look East policy provided the essential foundation needed for more complex and diverse regional interactions in later years. It transitioned the state's foreign relations into a phase where economic ties could eventually support broader strategic and security initiatives. This early groundwork was indispensable for the subsequent evolution of a more proactive and influential regional posture.

276. (A) Functional upgrade of geographic and strategic scope
The Act East policy is characterized as a significant expansion and improvement of previous regional engagement strategies. It broadens the geographic reach and strategic depth of diplomacy, moving beyond earlier frameworks. This functional upgrade reflects a more proactive stance, aiming to enhance the state's influence and presence across a much

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Non-Alignment," which aimed to balance India's relations after a perceived tilt toward the Soviet Union. Each phase reflects the specific strategic priorities and global contexts faced by these different Prime Ministers.

245. (C) India shares a direct physical land border with all five Central Asian Republics.
India does not share a direct physical land border with all five Central Asian Republics; in fact, its land access is largely blocked by other countries. Other statements are correct: India views the region as its civilizational neighborhood, uranium procurement is a vital aspect of their engagement for India's nuclear energy needs, and India conducts high-level India-Central Asia Summits to institutionalize and enhance regional cooperation across various strategic and economic sectors.

246. (B) The end of the Cold War and economic imperatives.
The fundamental transition in India's foreign policy from early idealism to modern pragmatism was caused by the seismic shift at the end of the Cold War and urgent domestic economic imperatives. The collapse of the Soviet Union required India to diversify its strategic partners, while the 1991 economic crisis necessitated liberalization and a focus on trade and investment. These combined factors forced a more realistic and economy-centered approach to diplomacy, leading to current multi-alignment strategies.

247. (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation focuses on Eurasian security and includes the important RATS mechanism, which India uses to engage with Central Asian countries. However, membership in the SCO does not prevent India from also being a member of the Quad. India's foreign policy is built on the principle of multi-alignment, allowing it to participate in diverse and sometimes competing international groupings to maximize its strategic autonomy and address various national interests simultaneously.

248. (A) 2+2 Dialogue with Japan - Involves Foreign and Defence Ministers
The "2+2 Dialogue" format between India and Japan correctly involves their respective Foreign and Defense Ministers to discuss high-level strategic and security issues. Other pairs are incorrect: the dialogue with the US also involves Foreign and Defense Ministers, not Finance and Commerce. Similarly, the 2+2 dialogues with Russia and Australia follow the same Foreign and Defense format, rather than focusing on health, education, sports, or culture as the primary ministerial components.

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249. (C) Procuring Russian crude while managing Western relations.
To competently secure energy supplies while maintaining strategic autonomy during the Russia-Ukraine conflict, India implemented an approach of procuring discounted Russian crude oil while carefully managing its relations with Western partners. This strategy prioritized India's national energy security and economic stability amidst global volatility. By refusing to join sanctions and instead focusing on its own domestic needs, India demonstrated its commitment to an independent foreign policy based on pragmatic national interests rather than external pressure.

250. (B) 2, 3, and 4 only
India's soft power is effectively projected through programs like ITEC, its democratic traditions, and active diaspora engagement, all of which build significant international goodwill. However, soft power alone is not sufficient to protect national borders against hard security threats. Furthermore, far from being irrelevant, soft power remains a critical tool in the 21st-century multipolar world, complementing hard power by enhancing a nation's reputation and its ability to lead through attraction and persuasion.

251. (B) Sovereignty protection and promoting global peace
The foundational framework of the nation's foreign policy was originally established to safeguard newly acquired sovereignty and advocate for international harmony. These core principles provided a structural basis for early diplomatic engagements, ensuring that the state could protect its independence while actively contributing to global stability and the promotion of peaceful coexistence among diverse nations.

252. (A) As highly flexible guidelines for statecraft
Experts view foreign policy objectives not as rigid or unchangeable doctrines, but rather as adaptable frameworks that guide strategic decision-making. This flexible nature allows the state to effectively navigate shifting geopolitical landscapes and contemporary international challenges. By maintaining this adaptability, the state ensures that its fundamental interests are preserved while its specific diplomatic targets evolve dynamically.

253. (C) Shifting and evolving strategic objectives
A highly dynamic approach to international relations is required because of the continuous evolution of strategic objectives over several decades. As the global environment changes, the state must balance its traditional founding principles with emerging necessities. This ongoing adaptation ensures that diplomatic efforts remain relevant and effective in response to the shifting polarities and complexities of the modern world.

254. (D) The foundational essence of the core principles
Although foreign policy objectives must continuously adapt to reflect changing global polarities, the foundational essence of the core principles remains consistently preserved. This stability provides a permanent guiding framework for all diplomatic engagements. It ensures that the state maintains its core identity and long-term values, such as strategic autonomy, even while navigating the fluid and complex international landscape.

255. (C) Strategic autonomy and peaceful coexistence
The strategic evolution of foreign policy serves as a clear reflection of a deep-rooted commitment to maintaining independent decision-making and promoting global harmony. These concepts function as the ultimate guiding framework for widespread diplomatic interactions. By prioritizing strategic autonomy and peaceful coexistence, the state ensures that its international engagements are aligned with its long-term vision for regional and global stability.

256. (B) Geographic proximity
Strategic calculations in foreign policy are heavily influenced by the geographic distance between nations. Proximity dictates the urgency and nature of bilateral engagements, as immediate neighbors often share direct security and economic concerns. Understanding how physical location impacts these relationships is vital for crafting effective regional strategies that address historical complexities and foster stable, mutually beneficial interactions within the surrounding environment.

257. (D) Immediate neighborhood relationship management
Managing relations with immediate neighbors is considered a primary diplomatic priority because of the unique historical and geographical complexities involved. These relationships require constant attention to stabilize the region through robust economic and security cooperation. Addressing these specific challenges is essential for ensuring that the state can maintain its sovereignty while fostering a peaceful and prosperous environment in its closest vicinity.

258. (A) Expansion of strategic interests
As a state expands its strategic interests beyond its immediate borders, new opportunities for diplomatic engagement arise within the extended neighborhood. This geographic broadening allows for the development of diverse partnerships and the exploration of untapped economic markets. Expanding these interests necessitates the use of varied diplomatic tools to enhance the state's geopolitical footprint and promote regional integration across wider territories.

259. (C) They involve different, calibrated approaches
Diplomatic engagement with the extended neighborhood requires a different set of tools compared to those used for immediate neighbors. These tools must be carefully calibrated to address the specific needs and distinct characteristics of more distant partners. While both spheres are interconnected, the use of tailored strategies ensures that the state can effectively manage regional stability and foster mutual development.

260. (A) Managing both neighbourhood spheres
Effectively managing relations with both the immediate and extended neighborhoods is essential for expanding a state's influence. This dual focus ensures regional stability and fosters comprehensive development across

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various geographic zones. By balancing these interconnected yet distinct spheres, the state can enhance its broader geopolitical presence and secure its long-term strategic interests within the surrounding regional architecture and global landscape.

261. (D) Strategic convergence and maritime cooperation
In the current geopolitical environment, interactions with the United States are increasingly centered on shared strategic goals and collaborative efforts in the maritime domain. This relationship also emphasizes technological partnerships, reflecting a modern approach to bilateral engagement. Such focus areas illustrate how major power dynamics are evolving to address contemporary security challenges and foster long-term cooperation in vital strategic sectors globally.

262. (B) Sustained cooperation in defense and energy sectors
Long-standing relations with Russia are built upon a foundation of continuous collaboration in the fields of defense and energy. These sectors represent the core of the bilateral relationship, providing stability and mutual benefit over several decades. Maintaining this cooperation is a vital component of the state's broader strategy for managing interactions with major powers while securing essential national interests.

263. (C) Because major powers often hold competing global interests
Balancing relations between major powers like the United States and Russia is challenging because these nations often possess conflicting global agendas. Navigating these competing interests requires a sophisticated and careful diplomatic approach to avoid friction. The state must ensure that its own strategic objectives are met without compromising its standing with either power, highlighting the complexity of modern multi-alignment strategies.

264. (D) A highly pragmatic approach
Managing the intricate nuances of relationships with multiple major powers requires a foreign policy based on realism and practical considerations. This pragmatic approach allows the state to navigate the competing interests of global actors effectively. By focusing on tangible outcomes and strategic flexibility, the state can maintain mutually beneficial ties with diverse powers while shielding its bilateral relations from external frictions.

265. (A) Strategic multi-alignment
Maintaining successful and beneficial engagements with various major powers highlights the importance of a multi-alignment strategy. This approach ensures that relationships with different global actors are insulated from external tensions and remain productive. By adopting multi-alignment, a state can pursue its interests across multiple partnerships simultaneously, securing its strategic autonomy and enhancing its influence within the complex global strategic architecture.

266. (B) Economic interdependence and unresolved border complexities
Relations with China are defined by a complex combination of deep economic links and persistent, unresolved boundary issues. This duality creates a challenging dynamic where the state must manage significant trade dependencies while simultaneously addressing security concerns. Effectively navigating this multifaceted relationship is a critical component of regional diplomacy, requiring a careful balance between cooperative economic goals and competitive strategic necessities.

267. (B) Regional objectives and infrastructure development
The strengthening partnership with Japan is largely motivated by shared goals for regional stability and collaborative efforts in building infrastructure. These common objectives foster a robust strategic and economic bond between the two nations. By focusing on mutual growth and developmental initiatives, both states enhance their regional influence and contribute to a more integrated and prosperous Asian economic and security environment.

268. (A) Trade, climate change, and normative alignment
Diplomatic engagement with the European Union is increasingly focused on negotiating trade agreements, addressing the global climate crisis, and aligning on international norms.

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by France's consistent support for India on sensitive issues such as nuclear technology access, cooperation in high-end space missions, and a shared approach to counter-terrorism. This convergence of interests and long-term support directly explains why the bilateral relationship has deepened into one of India's most reliable and comprehensive international partnerships.

222. (D) Central Asia and the Persian Gulf
The Ashgabat Agreement is an international transport and transit corridor that facilitates the movement of goods between Central Asia and the Persian Gulf. By joining this agreement, India aims to enhance its economic and trade connectivity with the landlocked nations of Central Asia. The corridor provides a strategic route that bypasses traditional obstacles and integrates different regional transport networks, supporting India's energy security and its broader strategic engagement with the Eurasian heartland.

223. (A) To enhance counter-terrorism through RATS and resources.
A key objective for India's engagement with the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is to enhance regional counter-terrorism cooperation through its Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure. The SCO provides a valuable platform for intelligence sharing and joint efforts against terrorism, separatism, and extremism in Eurasia. By participating in this organization, India also strengthens its political and economic ties with Central Asian countries and contributes to regional stability while maintaining its own strategic autonomy and global partnerships.

224. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
India has established distinct strategic partnerships with major powers: a "Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership" with Russia, a "Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership" with the United States, and a "Special Strategic and Global Partnership" with Japan. Its comprehensive strategic relationship with France dates back to 1998. These varied designations reflect the unique history, depth, and specific areas of cooperation that India maintains with each of these key international partners.

225. (B) Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) have national voting rights.
While the Indian government actively engages with its diaspora through various programs, Overseas Citizens of India do not have national voting rights in India. Other statements are correct: the MEA's OIA division manages diaspora affairs, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated to honor their contributions, and the diaspora acts as a crucial bridge for technology transfer and investment, enhancing India's soft power and its economic ties with host nations around the world.

226. (A) The need to maximize interests in a multipolar world.
The shift toward "Multi-alignment" in India's foreign policy is primarily caused by the need to maximize national interests in an increasingly multipolar and complex world. By engaging with multiple global powers and participating in diverse, issue-based coalitions, India can protect its strategic autonomy and pursue its economic and security goals more effectively. This pragmatic approach allows for flexibility and ensures that India is not constrained by rigid, exclusive alliances in its international relations.

227. (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
India is a member of the Quad, which focuses on non-military security, while AUKUS is a separate trilateral military technology pact involving nuclear submarines. India does not perceive AUKUS as a direct threat to its sovereignty; instead, it acknowledges that different groupings serve different strategic purposes in the Indo-Pacific. This demonstrates India's ability to navigate a complex landscape of overlapping regional partnerships while maintaining its own strategic interests and institutional memberships.

228. (D) Act Far East - Russia
The "Act Far East" policy is a specific Indian initiative focused on enhancing economic and strategic engagement with the Russian Far East. Other pairs are incorrect: the Look West policy focuses on the Middle East, not Japan; Connect Central Asia targets the Central Asian Republics, not Southeast Asia; and the SAGAR initiative is centered on the Indian Ocean Region rather than the broader Pacific Ocean. Each policy reflects a targeted geographic priority.

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wider area, including the strategically vital Indo-Pacific region.

277. (D) Physical connectivity and security cooperation
Two central pillars of the Act East policy are the enhancement of regional infrastructure and the strengthening of strategic defense partnerships. By focusing on physical connectivity and security cooperation, the state seeks to build deeper ties with its neighbors. This dual approach ensures that economic integration is supported by a stable security environment, facilitating comprehensive regional engagement and collective developmental goals.

278. (B) Strategic partnerships and cultural exchanges
The implementation of the Act East policy requires the state to go beyond simple trade relations by cultivating robust strategic alliances and deep cultural connections. These initiatives are designed to create a more holistic and enduring presence in the region. By engaging through these diverse channels, the state can build stronger transnational networks and enhance its overall diplomatic influence and soft power.

279. (C) Assuming a security and economic role in the East
A primary motivation for the Act East policy is the state's desire to take on a more prominent and active role in both the security and economic affairs of the eastern region. This drive is rooted in the need to project influence and ensure regional stability. By assuming these responsibilities, the state positions itself as a key regional stakeholder.

280. (D) Strategic influence and regional integration
Vigorous pursuit of the Act East policy is essential for projecting strategic power and ensuring the nation is fully integrated into the regional architecture. This approach helps the state navigate an increasingly complex geopolitical environment effectively. Achieving deep regional integration and influence is necessary for securing long-term economic and security interests while fostering collective growth and stability in the Indo-Pacific.

281. (A) Economic reintegration and trade partnerships
The early stages of the Look East policy were mainly focused on re-establishing economic ties and fostering trade collaborations with Southeast Asian nations. This priority was driven by the need to align the domestic economy with regional growth trends. By concentrating on economic reintegration, the state laid the groundwork for institutional cooperation and sustainable partnerships that would support its future diplomatic evolution.

282. (B) Security cooperation and strategic connectivity
In contrast to earlier economic focuses, the Act East phase represents a significant turn toward building strategic infrastructure and enhancing regional security collaboration. This shift reflects a more comprehensive approach to diplomacy, encompassing a wider geographic area including the Indo-Pacific. By prioritizing security and connectivity, the state aims to play a more active role in maintaining regional stability and integration.

283. (B) Interpreting contemporary regional diplomacy
Recognizing the link between the Look East and Act East phases is vital for a clear understanding of current regional diplomatic strategies. This continuum illustrates how foreign policy has evolved from a primarily economic focus to a multifaceted strategic posture. Understanding this progression allows analysts to better interpret the motivations and objectives behind the state's modern interactions within the broader Indo-Pacific region.

284. (A) The scope of the strategic objectives
As the policy framework transitioned from Look East to Act East, the range of strategic goals became significantly broader and more ambitious. This expansion included a shift from narrow economic targets to comprehensive security, political, and connectivity objectives. This change reflects a more proactive foreign policy intended to address a wider array of regional challenges and opportunities in an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape.

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237. (C) Balancing influence through deep regional linkages.
The fundamental strategic goal of India's "Act East" policy is to balance influence in the Indo-Pacific through the creation of deep, multifaceted regional linkages. By strengthening economic, cultural, and security ties with Southeast and East Asian nations, India seeks to ensure a stable, rules-based, and inclusive regional order. This approach emphasizes collaborative partnerships and improved connectivity rather than unilateral dominance, reflecting India's role as a major regional stakeholder and security provider.

238. (D) Diplomatic restraint and adherence to the LoC.
During the 1999 Kargil conflict, India received significant international support because it demonstrated great diplomatic restraint and strictly adhered to the Line of Control by not crossing it during its military operations. This principled stance clearly identified Pakistan as the aggressor and India as the defending party, enhancing India's international credibility. The situation showcased the success of a disciplined approach that combined effective military action with sophisticated and responsible global diplomacy.

239. (A) Avoid Cold War alliances and maintain autonomy.
The doctrine of Non-Alignment fundamentally allowed India to avoid being drawn into the rigid military and ideological alliances of the Cold War era. By maintaining this independent stance, India was able to preserve its strategic autonomy and pursue its national interests based on its own principles. This approach also gave India the flexibility to engage with both superpowers while leading the cause of newly independent and developing nations on the global stage.

240. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.
The first statement is incorrect; the "Neighbourhood First" policy, influenced by the Gujral Doctrine, does not demand reciprocity for every piece of aid given. Instead, the Gujral Doctrine explicitly advocates for a non-reciprocal approach, where India, as the larger power, offers unilateral concessions to build trust. This second statement is correct, reflecting a key principle that continues to shape India's efforts to foster a cooperative and stable regional environment in South Asia.

241. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
India has been a primary promoter of the International Solar Alliance because it actively seeks to position itself as a global leader in climate action and renewable energy. By spearheading this international organization, India demonstrates its commitment to sustainable development and its capacity to lead collective efforts for a green energy transition. This strategic goal directly explains India's initiative in co-founding the ISA and providing the institutional support for its headquarters and global operations.

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242. (A) The Siliguri Corridor (Chicken's Neck)
India's strategic interest in the Chumbi Valley is primarily due to the valley's close proximity to the Siliguri Corridor, also known as the "Chicken's Neck." This narrow strip of land connects mainland India to its eight Northeast states. Because the valley is under Chinese control, any military advancement there could potentially threaten to sever this vital link. Protecting the security and stability of the Siliguri Corridor is therefore a top priority for India's national defense.

243. (C) India advocates for the food security rights of developing nations.
In the World Trade Organization, India consistently advocates for the food security rights of developing nations. This involves pushing for a permanent solution to the issue of public stockholding for food security purposes and defending the right to provide necessary agricultural subsidies. While India is a committed member of the multilateral trading system, it works to ensure that global trade rules are fair and account for the developmental needs and socio-economic challenges of poorer countries.

244. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
Different eras of Indian foreign policy are associated with key leaders: Jawaharlal Nehru for the initial Non-Alignment, I.K. Gujral for his non-reciprocal neighborhood doctrine, and Narendra Modi for the proactive "Act East" policy. Morarji Desai is associated with the concept of "Genuine

293. (D) Diverse political systems and economic asymmetries
Regional diplomacy is often complicated by the significant differences in how various member states are governed and the disparities in their economic wealth. These asymmetries require careful negotiation and calibrated strategies to ensure that all members can benefit from cooperation. Navigating these diverse backgrounds is a key challenge that must be addressed to build a truly integrated and effective regional organization.

294. (B) Targeted, region-specific solutions to issues
Focusing on regional organizations allows for the development of specialized answers to complex transnational problems that broader global forums might fail to address. These targeted solutions are more effective because they are tailored to the unique geographic and historical context of the area. This approach ensures that local issues receive the specific attention and resources needed for successful resolution and stability.

295. (C) To build regional architecture and mitigate frictions
Sustained involvement in regional groups is fundamental for constructing a stable and cooperative regional framework. This participation helps reduce localized tensions through institutionalized dialogue and collective action. By building this architecture, the state can promote shared economic prosperity and ensure that geopolitical frictions are managed constructively, leading to a more secure and integrated neighborhood for all involved parties.

296. (D) Cultural heritage and institutional capacity building
A nation's rich history and its ability to help other states develop their own governance and systems serve as powerful diplomatic tools. These assets allow a state to influence others through attraction rather than force. By projecting cultural values and providing developmental assistance, the state builds a positive international image and strengthens its relationships with partners across the globe.

297. (A) Functioning without traditional coercive measures
The use of soft power allows a state to improve its ties with other nations without resorting to threats or military force. This non-coercive approach fosters a sense of mutual respect and attraction, making diplomatic negotiations smoother and more effective. By relying on positive influence, the state can build long-lasting partnerships and global goodwill that traditional power alone cannot achieve.

298. (B) Diaspora engagement and developmental assistance
Key factors that demonstrate the strength of a state's soft power include its relationship with its citizens living abroad and its efforts to provide aid to other nations. These activities, along with educational exchanges, create deep transnational networks and positive global narratives. Such engagements allow the state to project its values and build influence through collaborative and helpful international activities.

299. (B) Build global goodwill and smoother negotiations
By using attraction instead of coercion, a state can cultivate a broad base of international support and favor. This global goodwill creates a more favorable environment for conducting diplomatic business and reaching strategic agreements. When other nations view a state positively, they are more likely to cooperate on complex issues, leading to more successful outcomes in international relations.

300. (A) Integration with economic and security objectives
Modern foreign policy increasingly combines the use of soft power with hard economic and security goals to create a unified and holistic strategy. This integration ensures that cultural and values-based influence supports a state's material interests. By merging these different types of power, the state can maximize its overall diplomatic leverage and achieve its long-term strategic objectives more effectively.

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CHAPTER 07

South Asia and Indo-Pacific Region

1. What term describes the geopolitical concept emphasizing the interconnectedness of the Indian and Pacific Oceans?
(A) Asia-Pacific
(B) Indo-Pacific
(C) Trans-Pacific
(D) Eurasian-Pacific

2. Read the following statements regarding the geostrategic setting of South Asia:
Statement I: South Asia is isolated from the Indian Ocean by the Himalayas.
Statement II: The region's geopolitical significance is enhanced by vital maritime chokepoints.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

3. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Indo-Pacific region has become the center of global geopolitical competition.
Reason (R): It contains vital sea lanes of communication and significant global economic hubs.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

4. Which concept applies when a state secures naval superiority to control the Indo-Pacific sea lanes?
(A) Mackinder's Heartland Theory
(B) Spykman's Rimland Theory
(C) Wallerstein's World Systems Theory
(D) Mahan's Sea Power Theory

5. Which of the following is not considered a traditional maritime chokepoint in the Indo-Pacific region?
(A) Strait of Malacca
(B) Strait of Hormuz
(C) Strait of Gibraltar
(D) Bab el-Mandeb

6. Match the Strategic Concepts in List I with their Proponents in List II:
List I: Strategic Concepts
P. Sea Power
Q. Heartland Theory
R. String of Pearls
S. Free and Open Indo-Pacific
List II: Proponents
1. Shinzo Abe
2. Halford Mackinder
3. Alfred Thayer Mahan
4. Booz Allen Hamilton
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

7. What describes the strategy of maintaining a balance of power without direct military confrontation?
(A) Hard balancing
(B) Bandwagoning
(C) Buck-passing
(D) Soft balancing

8. Identify the incorrect statement about the geostrategic environment of South Asia.
(A) It lacks any access to the Indian Ocean.
(B) The region is bounded by the Himalayas in the north.
(C) It features nuclear-armed neighboring states.
(D) Extra-regional powers actively engage in the

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area.

9. Read the following list regarding countries involved in strategic dialogues:
I. India
II. Japan
III. Australia
IV. United States
Which of the above countries are part of the 'Quad' strategic dialogue?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

10. The geopolitical term "Rimland" is most closely associated with which scholar?
(A) Nicholas Spykman
(B) Halford Mackinder
(C) Kenneth Waltz
(D) Karl Haushofer

11. Which pair accurately reflects a colonial power and its former South Asian territory?
(A) France - Ceylon
(B) Britain - Macao
(C) Netherlands - Maldives
(D) Portugal - Goa

12. Read the following list of political and strategic components:
I. Rule of law
II. Freedom of navigation
III. Economic prosperity
IV. Territorial expansion
V. Peaceful dispute resolution
Which of the above are the core components of the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" (FOIP) vision?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

13. Which scenario best represents 'hedging' in Indo-Pacific geopolitics?
(A) Explicitly aligning through a formal military pact with a rising power.
(B) Terminating all existing trade and diplomatic links with regional neighbors.
(C) Balancing economic engagement with strategic security ties to different powers.
(D) Unilaterally declaring an immediate state of war against a primary rival.

14. Which of the following describes a state's effort to increase its security, inadvertently threatening others?
(A) Democratic Peace
(B) Complex Interdependence
(C) Hegemonic Stability
(D) Security Dilemma

15. Arrange the following colonial events in South Asia in chronological order:
I. Establishment of the English East India Company
II. Sepoy Mutiny (First War of Independence)
III. Battle of Plassey
IV. Formation of the Indian National Congress
(A) I, III, II, IV
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) III, I, II, IV
(D) I, III, IV, II

16. What was the primary motivation for British colonialism in the Indian subcontinent initially?
(A) Religious conversion
(B) Commercial trade
(C) Spreading democracy
(D) Cultural exchange

17. Which statement about the nationalism movements in South Asia is correct?
(A) Regional nationalism emerged as a movement completely devoid of any religious overtones.
(B) Anti-colonial nationalism unified diverse ethnic groups against foreign rule.
(C) Independence struggles across the region were characterized by exclusively violent methods.
(D) Colonial administrators actively fostered the development of unified national identities.

18. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Partition of India in 1947 led to mass migration and violence.
Reason (R): The borders were drawn strictly along linguistic lines without religious consideration.

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(C) Cyber security
(D) Health security

38. Read the following list of potential security issues:
I. Border skirmishes
II. Cross-border terrorism
III. Cyber-attacks by foreign actors
IV. Domestic inflation
Which of the above are considered external threats to state security in South Asia?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) II, III, and IV
(C) I, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

39. A state experiences severe water shortages due to upstream dam construction by a neighboring country. This represents a threat to:
(A) Human security only
(B) State security only
(C) Neither human nor state security
(D) Both human and state security

40. Read the following statements regarding the threat of terrorism in South Asia:
Statement I: Cross-border terrorism has severely impacted India-Pakistan relations.
Statement II: Terrorism in South Asia is exclusively fueled by economic grievances.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

41. Read the following list of regional issues:
I. Climate change
II. Piracy
III. Poverty
IV. Natural disasters
V. Military alliances
Which of the above are identified as key human security challenges in the Indo-Pacific region?
(A) I, II, III, and IV
(B) I, III, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, II, IV, and V

42. Which pair of territorial disputes is correctly matched with the involved nations?
(A) Kalapani - India and Nepal
(B) Sir Creek - India and Bangladesh
(C) Senkaku Islands - China and Vietnam
(D) Durand Line - Pakistan and Iran

43. Which scenario best reflects a crisis of state-building?
(A) Successful implementation of comprehensive nationwide public health programs.
(B) Maintenance of a regular and peaceful transfer of political power.
(C) Consistently high rates of annual gross domestic product (GDP) growth.
(D) Inability of the central government to control peripheral territories.

44. Arrange the following events related to regional territorial issues in chronological order:
I. Signing of the Indus Water Treaty
II. Kargil War
III. Liberation of Bangladesh
IV. Sino-Indian War
(A) I, IV, III, II
(B) I, III, IV, II
(C) IV, I, III, II
(D) IV, III, I, II

45. The McMahon Line is the disputed boundary between which two countries?
(A) India and Pakistan
(B) Pakistan and Afghanistan
(C) India and China
(D) China and Myanmar

46. What is the primary cause of maritime disputes in the South China Sea?
(A) Significant disagreements over international deep-sea mining regulations.
(B) Contentious disputes regarding annual fishing quotas assigned by the UN.
(C) Implementation of multinational piracy containment and naval strategies.
(D) Overlapping claims of historical sovereignty and maritime EEZs.

47. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).

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(D) I, III, IV, and V

28. Which is an incorrect pair regarding South Asian political regimes post-independence?
(A) India - Parliamentary Democracy
(B) Sri Lanka - Absolute Monarchy
(C) Pakistan - Periodic Military Rule
(D) Maldives - Presidential Republic

29. Evaluate the competency required to resolve ethnic conflicts in state-building: Which approach is most sustainable?
(A) Forced assimilation of minorities
(B) Complete centralization of state power
(C) Power-sharing and federalism
(D) Expulsion of minority populations

30. Arrange the following democratic transitions in chronological order:
I. Independence of Bangladesh
II. End of Nepal's monarchy
III. End of the Sri Lankan Civil War
IV. First democratic elections in Bhutan
(A) I, IV, II, III
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, I, IV, III
(D) I, IV, III, II

31. What is the most appropriate description of "Nation-building"?
(A) Forging a shared sense of identity and unity among citizens.
(B) Developing and constructing large-scale physical state infrastructure.
(C) Creating and regulating a standardized national currency system.
(D) Formally demarcating and defending internationally recognized state boundaries.

32. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Nation-building in South Asia has been challenged by deep ethnic and linguistic divisions.
Reason (R): Colonial borders often ignored historical and cultural realities.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

33. Identify the correct statement about political regimes in South Asia.
(A) All South Asian states have enjoyed uninterrupted democracy since independence.
(B) Bangladesh experienced periods of military rule before stabilizing as a democracy.
(C) The military has never played a political role in Pakistan.
(D) Bhutan is currently under a military dictatorship.

34. What is the primary feature of Sri Lanka's post-1978 political regime?
(A) Executive Presidency
(B) Westminster Parliamentary System
(C) Constitutional Monarchy
(D) One-Party Communist State

35. Match the Internal Threats in List I with the affected Country/Region in List II:
List I: Internal Threats
P. Naxalite Insurgency
Q. Tamil Separatism
R. Baloch Separatism
S. Rohingya Crisis
List II: Country/Region
1. Pakistan
2. India
3. Myanmar
4. Sri Lanka
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(D) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1

36. Which term best defines the protection of individuals from severe and pervasive threats to their survival and dignity?
(A) National Security
(B) State Security
(C) Traditional Security
(D) Human Security

37. Which of the following is not a component of Human Security as defined by the UNDP?
(A) Economic security
(B) Food security

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(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

19. The "Two-Nation Theory" in pre-independence India primarily advocated for the creation of:
(A) Bangladesh
(B) Sri Lanka
(C) Pakistan
(D) Nepal

20. Which of the following movements was not part of India's independence struggle?
(A) Non-Cooperation Movement
(B) Quit India Movement
(C) Civil Disobedience Movement
(D) Boxer Rebellion

21. Match the Independence Leaders in List I with their respective countries in List II:
List I: Independence Leaders
P. Mahatma Gandhi
Q. Muhammad Ali Jinnah
R. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman
S. Don Stephen Senanayake
List II: Countries
1. Sri Lanka
2. Bangladesh
3. Pakistan
4. India
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4

22. Which factor most heavily influenced the drawing of the Radcliffe Line?
(A) Topographical features
(B) Religious demographics
(C) Linguistic divisions
(D) Economic resources

23. Read the following statements regarding colonialism in the Indo-Pacific:
Statement I: The Dutch East India Company primarily controlled what is now Indonesia.
Statement II: French Indochina included present-day Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

24. Read the following list of factors:
I. Divide and rule strategies
II. Exploitative economic structures
III. Promotion of universal higher education
IV. Creation of arbitrary borders
Which of the above colonial policies contributed to the delay in nation-building post-independence?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) I, III, and IV
(C) I, II, and IV
(D) II, III, and IV

25. Defining "State-building," which option represents its core objective?
(A) Cultivating a singular and homogeneous shared cultural identity among citizens.
(B) Implementing policies aimed at the promotion of global free trade agreements.
(C) Establishing functional institutions and a monopoly on the legitimate use of force.
(D) Suppressing and eradicating all forms of internal political opposition to the state.

26. Which country in South Asia transitioned from an absolute monarchy to a federal democratic republic in 2008?
(A) Nepal
(B) Bhutan
(C) Maldives
(D) Thailand

27. Read the following list of political factors:
I. Frequent military coups
II. Ethnic insurgencies
III. Strong democratic traditions
IV. Weak institutional frameworks
V. External economic sanctions
Which of the above are considered major challenges to democratization in Myanmar over the past decades?
(A) I, II, IV, and V
(B) I, II, III, and IV
(C) II, III, IV, and V

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Assertion (A): The Role of Extra-regional powers in the Indo-Pacific has increased significantly.
Reason (R): These powers seek to secure their economic interests and counter regional hegemonies.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

48. The "Nine-Dash Line" is a controversial territorial claim made by:
(A) Japan
(B) China
(C) Vietnam
(D) Philippines

49. Match the Extra-regional Powers in List I with their Indo-Pacific Strategy/Policy in List II:
List I: Extra-regional Powers
P. United States
Q. Russia
R. France
S. European Union
List II: Strategy/Policy
1. Pivot to Asia
2. Greater Eurasian Partnership
3. Resident Power Strategy
4. Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(D) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4

50. Which is the exception to the principles usually adopted by ASEAN?
(A) Collective defense treaties
(B) Non-interference in internal affairs
(C) Consensus-based decision making
(D) Peaceful resolution of disputes

51. What is the full form of SAARC?
(A) South Asian Alliance for Regional Commerce
(B) South Asian Agreement for Regional Connectivity
(C) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
(D) South Asian Agency for Rural Cooperation

52. Which of these correctly identifies the impact of the US "Pivot to Asia"?
(A) Full and complete withdrawal of United States military forces from Japan.
(B) Total dissolution and abandonment of the Quad strategic security dialogue.
(C) Strategic merging of the United States and Chinese primary naval fleets.
(D) Increased diplomatic, economic, and military focus on the Indo-Pacific.

53. Read the following list of international organizations:
I. IORA
II. SAARC
III. ASEAN
IV. NATO
Which of the above organizations aim to promote regional trade and strategic partnerships?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) II, III, and IV
(C) I, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

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54. "IORA" stands for:
(A) Indian Ocean Regional Alliance
(B) Indian Ocean Rim Association
(C) International Ocean Resource Agency
(D) Indo-Pacific Ocean Relations Authority

55. If a country imposes high tariffs on all regional imports, it negatively impacts:
(A) Protectionism
(B) National sovereignty
(C) Import substitution
(D) Regional economic integration

56. Read the following list of cooperative sectors:
I. Trade and Investment
II. Technology
III. Energy
IV. Tourism
V. Defense Alliances
Which of the above are the key focus areas of BIMSTEC?
(A) I, II, III, and IV
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

IV. Implementation of SAFTA
(A) II, III, I, IV
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, I, III, IV
(D) III, II, IV, I

75. Which incorrectly describes a challenge to state security?
(A) Ethno-nationalist insurgencies
(B) Transnational organized crime
(C) Cross-border terrorism
(D) High levels of literacy and civic engagement

76. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The strategic importance of the Indian Ocean Region has grown for global powers.
Reason (R): Over 80% of the world's seaborne trade in oil transits through Indian Ocean chokepoints.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

77. Read the following statements on Sri Lankan post-independence politics:
Statement I: The country has experienced prolonged periods of military dictatorship.
Statement II: The ethnic conflict predominantly involved the Sinhalese majority and the Tamil minority.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

78. Which concept captures the transition from a state-controlled economy to a market-driven one?
(A) Nationalization
(B) Mercantilism
(C) Import Substitution
(D) Economic Liberalization

79. Match the Trade Agreements/Forums in List I with their primary focus/nature in List II:
List I: Trade Agreements/Forums
P. SAFTA
Q. APEC
R. ARF
S. RCEP
List II: Focus/Nature
1. Comprehensive free trade agreement in the Asia-Pacific
2. Preferential trade agreement in South Asia
3. Regional security dialogue
4. Forum for sustainable economic growth in the Asia-Pacific
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

80. The process by which an imperial power relinquishes control over its colonies is known as:
(A) Neocolonialism
(B) Decolonization
(C) Imperial overstretch
(D) Annexation

81. A sudden, illegal seizure of power from a government, often by the military, is a:
(A) Referendum
(B) Coup d'état
(C) Vote of no confidence
(D) Impeachment

82. Read the following list of factors:
I. Religious extremism
II. Economic inequality
III. Homogeneous demographics
IV. Poor governance
Which of the above factors contribute to internal threats in South Asian states?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) I, II, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

83. What defines 'Neocolonialism' in the context of the Indo-Pacific?
(A) Direct and permanent military occupation by Western or global powers.
(B) Voluntary and peaceful annexation of small

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sector
4. Easing of government rules on business operations
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

66. The "Look East Policy" of India was primarily launched to:
(A) Cultivate extensive economic and strategic relations with Southeast Asia.
(B) Directly establish and maintain new colonial territories in the Pacific.
(C) Aggressively challenge and displace Japanese regional economic dominance.
(D) Focus national economic efforts exclusively on primary agricultural exports.

67. Which of the following is an internal threat amplified by globalization in developing states?
(A) Decreased access to advanced and emerging foreign technology.
(B) Drastic and widespread reduction in available consumer choices.
(C) Unequal distribution of wealth which often leads to social unrest.
(D) Significant strengthening of all traditional and physical state borders.

68. Read the following statements regarding the "Act East Policy":
I. It is an upgrade of the Look East Policy.
II. It focuses purely on cultural exchange.
III. It aims to enhance strategic and economic ties with the Indo-Pacific.
IV. It was initiated in the 1990s.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and III
(B) II and IV
(C) I, III, and IV
(D) II and III

69. Define "Strategic Partnership" in the context of international relations.
(A) A temporary military alliance formed exclusively during active periods of wartime.
(B) A formal and legally binding agreement to merge two existing sovereign nations.
(C) A long-term cooperative relationship targeting shared geopolitical objectives.
(D) A strictly focused economic agreement aimed at establishing a free trade zone.

70. How does the presence of extra-regional powers affect maritime security in the Indo-Pacific?
(A) It leads to the total and immediate elimination of all local maritime disputes.
(B) It fosters a complex balance of power and increased maritime militarization.
(C) It forces all participating nations to adopt authoritarian or communist regimes.
(D) It results in the immediate and permanent dissolution of regional organizations.

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71. Read the following list of countries:
I. Bangladesh
II. Pakistan
III. Sri Lanka
IV. Maldives
V. Thailand
Which of the above countries are NOT members of BIMSTEC?
(A) I and III
(B) II and IV
(C) III and V
(D) I and V

72. Identify the correct pair of a South Asian country and its primary export industry that benefited from globalization.
(A) Bangladesh - Ready-made garments
(B) Maldives - Automobile manufacturing
(C) Nepal - Deep-sea oil extraction
(D) Bhutan - Aerospace engineering

73. Why is democratization considered a challenging process in post-colonial states?
(A) Because they already possess overly developed and rigid institutional structures.
(B) Because former colonial powers continue to actively enforce democratic rules.
(C) Due to absent democratic traditions and deep historical societal cleavages.
(D) Because the vast majority of citizens are completely apathetic to local politics.

74. Arrange the following economic developments in chronological order:
I. Asian Financial Crisis
II. Introduction of LPG reforms in India
III. Establishment of the WTO

57. Identify the incorrect pairing of an organization and its headquarters/secretariat.
(A) SAARC - Kathmandu
(B) ASEAN - Jakarta
(C) IORA - New Delhi
(D) BIMSTEC - Dhaka

58. How does the "Mekong-Ganga Cooperation" (MGC) promote regional partnership?
(A) By facilitating tourism, culture, education, and transport connectivity.
(B) By creating a single unified currency for India and Southeast Asia.
(C) By establishing a permanent joint military command for the region.
(D) By monopolizing all river water usage through shared infrastructure.

59. Arrange the establishment of the following organizations in chronological order:
I. ASEAN
II. SAARC
III. BIMSTEC
IV. IORA
(A) I, II, IV, III
(B) II, I, III, IV
(C) I, II, III, IV
(D) II, IV, I, III

60. Read the following statements about ARF (ASEAN Regional Forum):
Statement I: It was established primarily to discuss economic trade barriers.
Statement II: It functions as a key forum for security dialogue in the Indo-Pacific.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

61. Which concept best defines APEC's approach to trade liberalization?
(A) Adoption of formal and legally binding international treaties.
(B) Implementation of severe and strict economic trade sanctions.
(C) Open regionalism based on non-binding voluntary commitments.
(D) Full creation of a regional customs union and common market.

62. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): SAARC has struggled to achieve deep economic integration.
Reason (R): Persistent bilateral tensions between India and Pakistan hinder cooperation.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

63. Identify the correct statement regarding Liberalisation, Privatisation, and Globalisation (LPG) in South Asia.
(A) India initiated its comprehensive LPG reforms in 1991.
(B) LPG reforms led to the complete eradication of poverty in the region.
(C) LPG policies strictly prohibit Foreign Direct Investment.
(D) Privatization involves transferring private assets to state control.

64. What is a primary economic consequence of globalization in South Asia?
(A) Sudden and absolute decline in national gross domestic product.
(B) Increased integration with global markets and supply chains.
(C) Promotion of total self-reliance and the elimination of imports.
(D) Systematic elimination of the domestic service-based economic sector.

65. Match the terms of LPG in List I with their descriptions in List II:
List I: LPG Terms
P. Liberalisation
Q. Privatisation
R. Globalisation
S. Deregulation
List II: Descriptions
1. Integration of domestic economy with the world economy
2. Removal of strict state controls and licenses
3. Transfer of ownership from public to private

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and remote island territories.
(C) Economic and cultural influence used to control developing nations indirectly.
(D) Efforts aimed at establishing and maintaining new democratic institutions.

84. Which statement about the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is correct?
(A) It was founded to create a military alliance against China.
(B) India was a founding member of ASEAN.
(C) It has completely integrated into a single sovereign nation.
(D) The "ASEAN Way" emphasizes consensus and non-interference.

85. Read the following list of community pillars:
I. Political-Security Community
II. Economic Community
III. Socio-Cultural Community
IV. Environmental Community
V. Defense Community
Which of the above are the 'Three Pillars' of the ASEAN Community?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) II, III, and IV
(C) I, III, and V
(D) II, IV, and V

86. Which pairing of an Indian Ocean chokepoint and its geographic location is incorrect?
(A) Strait of Hormuz - Between Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman
(B) Sunda Strait - Between India and Sri Lanka
(C) Bab el-Mandeb - Between Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
(D) Malacca Strait - Between Indonesia and Malaysia

87. A country formulates a policy to balance its trade deficit by incentivizing foreign corporations. This demonstrates application of:
(A) Autarky
(B) Import Substitution Industrialization
(C) Central Planning
(D) Globalisation and Foreign Direct Investment

88. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Democratization in Pakistan has been historically fragile.
Reason (R): The military has maintained a dominant role in the country's political and security affairs.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

89. Which is the most significant impact of globalization on human security in South Asia?
(A) Achieving the total and complete elimination of all infectious diseases.
(B) Drastic and permanent reduction of all forms of environmental degradation.
(C) Expansion of economic opportunities alongside rising wealth inequality.
(D) Facilitating the immediate and peaceful resolution of historical ethnic conflicts.

90. In regional trade, what does "Most Favored Nation" (MFN) status imply?
(A) Treating a country's trade partners equally without discrimination.
(B) Granting one specific country exclusive and total trade monopolies.
(C) Removing all forms of import taxes and tariffs for a specific nation.
(D) Establishing a formal and long-term political and strategic alliance.

91. Match the geopolitical theories in List I with their central premise in List II:
List I: Geopolitical Theories
P. Heartland Theory
Q. Rimland Theory
R. Sea Power Theory
S. Domino Theory
List II: Central Premise
1. Control of coastal fringes is the key to world power
2. Control of the Eurasian core guarantees world domination
3. Naval dominance secures global trade and influence
4. The fall of one state to communism leads to the fall of neighbors
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3

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161. What defines "Development Cooperation" in regional politics?
(A) Situations where wealthy states exploit the natural resources of poorer states.
(B) Collaborative efforts aimed at improving well-being in developing nations.
(C) Act of imposing high trade tariffs to protect domestic local industries.
(D) Formal process of merging the political and legal systems of two states.

162. Read the following statements about regionalism in South Asia:
Statement I: Asymmetric power dynamics, with India as the dominant state, complicate regional integration.
Statement II: South Asia is the most economically integrated region in the world.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

163. Match the Internal Security Threat in List I with its primary driver in List II:
List I: Internal Security Threat
P. Naxalism
Q. Religious Extremism
R. Ethnic Separatism
S. Resource Scarcity
List II: Primary Driver
1. Ideological/Theological radicalization
2. Marginalization and socio-economic inequality
3. Climate change and population growth
4. Linguistic and cultural identity suppression
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

164. Which of the following best explains why the Indo-Pacific region is vital for global energy security?
(A) It possesses the largest and most significant coal reserves in the entire world.
(B) It is a region that is entirely and completely energy independent.
(C) It currently serves as the sole producer of nuclear energy on a global scale.
(D) Key maritime chokepoints facilitate the transport of oil to Asian markets.

165. A case involving ethnic minorities facing systemic discrimination and subsequent radicalization best illustrates the failure of:
(A) Maritime security
(B) Liberalization
(C) Nation-building
(D) Trade cooperation

166. Identify the incorrect statement regarding regional forums.
(A) BIMSTEC - Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
(B) IORA - Indian Ocean Regional Alliance
(C) APEC - Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
(D) ARF - ASEAN Regional Forum

167. Read the following list of cooperative pillars:
I. Tourism
II. Culture
III. Education
IV. Defense
V. Transport and Communication
Which of the above are identified as pillars of the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

168. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The economic reforms of 1991 fundamentally altered India's geopolitical posture.
Reason (R): Economic growth provided the material resources necessary for an expanded strategic footprint in the Indo-Pacific.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

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101. A nation uses its technological advantage to disrupt the critical infrastructure of a rival state. This is an application of:
(A) Soft power
(B) Economic sanctions
(C) Cyber warfare
(D) Preventive diplomacy

102. Which pair represents a historical colonial power and its dominant administrative strategy?
(A) France - Complete cultural isolation of colonies
(B) Britain - Indirect rule and economic extraction
(C) Netherlands - Promotion of independent democracies
(D) Portugal - Disarmament of local rulers only

103. Which is an exception to the positive impacts of privatization?
(A) Increased operational efficiency
(B) Reduced fiscal burden on the government
(C) Encouragement of foreign investment
(D) Guaranteed elimination of corporate monopolies

104. Match the South Asian disputes in List I with their primary nature in List II:
List I: South Asian Disputes
P. Kashmir Dispute
Q. Sir Creek Dispute
R. Teesta River Dispute
S. Tamil Separatism
List II: Primary Nature
1. Maritime boundary issue
2. Territorial and historical sovereignty issue
3. Internal ethnic conflict
4. Transboundary water sharing issue
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

105. "Nationalism" in the post-colonial state-building phase often functions to:
(A) Divide the national population into competing tribal factions.
(B) Promote continued loyalty to the former imperial colonial masters.
(C) Unify diverse groups under a singular and shared state identity.
(D) Actively discourage any form of civic or political participation.

106. Read the following statements about SAARC:
Statement I: The SAARC charter explicitly allows the discussion of bilateral political disputes.
Statement II: SAARC was established in 1985 in Dhaka.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

107. Read the following list of countries:
I. Myanmar
II. Laos
III. Thailand
IV. India
V. Bangladesh
Which of the above countries constitute the "Golden Triangle," notorious for illicit drug trade affecting regional security?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) I, III, and IV
(C) II, IV, and V
(D) I, IV, and V

108. The term "Extra-regional power" in the context of the Indo-Pacific usually refers to:
(A) India
(B) United States
(C) Japan
(D) Indonesia

109. Which factor most heavily undermines successful democratization?
(A) Presence of a fully independent and functional judiciary.
(B) Existence of a vibrant and highly active civil society.
(C) Presence of deeply entrenched military interference in politics.
(D) Implementation of a complete universal adult franchise system.

110. Arrange the following policy initiatives of India in chronological order:
I. Look East Policy

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II. Act East Policy
III. SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region)
IV. Non-Aligned Movement
(A) IV, I, II, III
(B) IV, II, I, III
(C) I, IV, II, III
(D) I, II, IV, III

111. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Maritime disputes in the South China Sea remain unresolved despite international arbitration.
Reason (R): China rejects the jurisdiction and rulings of the Permanent Court of Arbitration regarding the Nine-Dash Line.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

112. Identify the correct statement regarding "Structural Adjustment Programs" (SAPs) introduced during liberalization.
(A) Policies that advocated for significantly increased government spending on social welfare.
(B) Reforms mandated by global institutions to enforce fiscal and market discipline.
(C) Initiatives that resulted in the immediate and total nationalization of all banks.
(D) Economic frameworks that strictly prohibited any form of international trade activity.

113. What is the fundamental principle of the "Non-Aligned Movement" (NAM) embraced by many South Asian states post-independence?
(A) Forming a singular and unified military bloc against the Western alliance.
(B) Maintaining independence from major power blocs during the Cold War era.
(C) Choosing to align strictly and exclusively with the former Soviet Union.
(D) Actively working toward the total dissolution of all national borders.

114. Which pair correctly matches an organization with its core objective?
(A) IORA - Promoting sustainable growth in the Indian Ocean region.
(B) APEC - Establishing a system of formal military collective defense.
(C) SAARC - Creating and managing a single unified currency for Asia.
(D) BIMSTEC - Facilitating advanced joint space exploration programs.

115. A government implements land reform and devises a linguistic reorganization of states. This is a strategy for:
(A) Development of a new extra-regional military alliance.
(B) Strengthening of national maritime security protocols.
(C) Internal consolidation and systematic nation-building.
(D) Promotion of deep and global economic integration.

116. Read the following statements about APEC:
Statement I: APEC includes members from both Asia and the Americas.
Statement II: APEC agreements are legally binding treaties.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

117. Read the following list of potential security threats:
I. Climate change-induced migration
II. Conventional tank battles
III. Water scarcity
IV. Cyber espionage
Which of the above represent a non-traditional security threat in South Asia?
(A) I, III, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

118. Which statement incorrectly characterizes the impact of globalization on South Asian states?
(A) It has increased foreign direct investment.

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(B) It has eliminated all cultural differences.
(C) It has accelerated technology transfer.
(D) It has integrated local economies into the global market.

119. Match the Political Events in List I to the Country in List II:
List I: Political Events
P. 1962 Military Coup by Ne Win
Q. 1999 Kargil Conflict
R. 2008 Transition to Republic
S. 2022 Economic Crisis and Leadership Ouster
List II: Country
1. Sri Lanka
2. Nepal
3. India/Pakistan
4. Myanmar
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4

120. Defining "Territorial Waters" under UNCLOS, how far do they extend from the baseline?
(A) 12 nautical miles
(B) 24 nautical miles
(C) 200 nautical miles
(D) 350 nautical miles

121. The exclusive economic zone (EEZ) allows a coastal state sovereign rights over:
(A) Exclusive control over all surface navigation activities.
(B) Authority over airspace above the waters up to 500 miles.
(C) Exploration and use of marine resources up to 200 nautical miles.
(D) Preventing the innocent passage of all foreign commercial ships.

122. Read the following list of potential regional issues:
I. India-Pakistan rivalry
II. Lack of physical connectivity
III. Similar export profiles among member states
IV. Absence of common security threats
V. Political instability in member states
Which of the above are factors hindering the success of SAARC?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, III, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, II, IV, and V

123. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): BIMSTEC has gained more prominence in India's regional policy recently compared to SAARC.
Reason (R): BIMSTEC provides a platform for regional cooperation without the paralyzing effect of India-Pakistan bilateral disputes.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

124. The geopolitical framework "SAGAR" formulated by India stands for:
(A) South Asian Growth and Regional Security
(B) Security and Growth for All in the Region
(C) Strategic Alliances for Global Advancement and Resilience
(D) Sea Area Guardians for Asian Resources

125. Arrange the following South Asian leaders in chronological order of their tenure/rise to power:
I. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman
II. Jawaharlal Nehru
III. Mahinda Rajapaksa
IV. Zia-ul-Haq
(A) II, I, IV, III
(B) II, IV, I, III
(C) I, II, III, IV
(D) II, I, III, IV

126. A nation adopts policies to protect domestic industries by restricting foreign investments. This is contrary to the principles of:
(A) Protectionism
(B) Nationalism
(C) Mercantilism
(D) Liberalisation and Globalisation

127. Read the following statements regarding colonial independence movements:

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Statement I: The Indian National Congress was founded in 1885.
Statement II: The Muslim League was formed to advocate exclusively for secularism.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

128. Which of the following defines a "Failed State"?
(A) A state that lacks the capability to project military power internationally.
(B) A state that has lost its monopoly on the legitimate use of physical force.
(C) A state currently experiencing a severe and temporary economic recession.
(D) A state that maintains a functional and diverse multiparty political system.

129. Identify the correct pair regarding extra-regional powers' strategies.
(A) USA - String of Pearls
(B) China - Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)
(C) Russia - Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)
(D) Japan - Greater Eurasian Partnership

130. What is a significant internal threat to human security in the Maldives?
(A) Threat of inundation due to rising sea levels.
(B) Widespread threat of transnational terrorism.
(C) Escalation of internal Naxalite insurgencies.
(D) Frequent and illegal military coups d'état.

131. Match the Regional Organizations in List I with their Member Count (approximate/exact as of recent data) in List II:
List I: Regional Organizations
P. SAARC
Q. ASEAN
R. BIMSTEC
S. IORA
List II: Member Count
1. 10
2. 8
3. 7
4. 23
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4

132. Which of the following is not an objective of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)?
(A) Confidence-building measures
(B) Preventive diplomacy
(C) Conflict resolution
(D) Establishing a unified currency

133. A country strategically develops commercial ports in friendly nations along vital sea lanes to secure energy imports. This is an application of:
(A) Strict adherence to national isolationism.
(B) Maintenance of nuclear deterrence policies.
(C) Use of geoeconomics and maritime strategy.
(D) Implementation of import substitution models.

134. Read the following list of political regimes of Nepal:
I. It transitioned from a Hindu monarchy to a secular republic.
II. It underwent a decade-long Maoist insurgency.
III. It is currently a military dictatorship.
IV. It adopted a new constitution in 2015.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

135. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Human security emphasizes the protection of individuals rather than just defending state borders.
Reason (R): Threats like poverty, disease, and environmental disasters kill far more people than interstate wars.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

136. Which describes the "Look East" policy's evolution to the "Act East" policy?

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(A) Shift from economic ties to encompassing strategic and security cooperation.
(B) Shift from engaging Southeast Asia to focusing primary engagement on the Middle East.
(C) Sudden and complete abandonment of all existing diplomatic ties with ASEAN nations.
(D) Reorientation of foreign policy to focus solely on religious and cultural exchanges.

137. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the geostrategic setting of the Indo-Pacific.
(A) It contains the world's most populous nations.
(B) It includes key maritime chokepoints like Malacca and Hormuz.
(C) It is devoid of major military rivalries.
(D) It is central to global supply chains.

138. The Durand Line forms the border between:
(A) Pakistan and Afghanistan
(B) India and China
(C) India and Pakistan
(D) Iran and Afghanistan

139. Read the following list of elements:
I. Legitimate institutional capacity
II. Extraction of resources (taxation)
III. Monopoly of violence
IV. Elimination of external trade
V. Rule of law
Which of the above elements are necessary for successful state-building?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, III, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, II, IV, and V

140. Arrange the following treaties/agreements in chronological order:
I. Shimla Agreement
II. Indus Water Treaty
III. Tashkent Declaration
IV. Lahore Declaration
(A) II, III, I, IV
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, I, III, IV
(D) III, II, I, IV

141. What does the term "Balancing" refer to in international relations?
(A) Adoption of the national currency of a neighboring or partner state.
(B) Explicit refusal to engage in any form of trade with a global hegemon.
(C) Aligning with others to counter a rising and potentially threatening power.
(D) Implementation of policies aimed at equalizing all domestic income levels.

142. Read the following statements on economic reforms in South Asia:
Statement I: Liberalization reduced license raj and bureaucratic controls in India.
Statement II: Privatization efforts completely eliminated the public sector in all South Asian states.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

143. Match the Concepts in List I with their context in South Asia in List II:
List I: Concepts
P. Insurgency
Q. Piracy
R. Border Dispute
S. Demographic dividend
List II: Context
1. Sir Creek
2. Malacca Strait/Indian Ocean
3. Youthful population providing economic potential
4. Naxalism
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4

144. Which organization was conceived to create a Bay of Bengal community bridging South and Southeast Asia?
(A) SAARC
(B) BIMSTEC
(C) ASEAN
(D) SCO

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(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4

92. The "String of Pearls" theory primarily describes the strategic intentions of which country in the Indian Ocean?
(A) India
(B) China
(C) United States
(D) Japan

93. Read the following statements about the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC):
Statement I: It involves India and five ASEAN countries.
Statement II: Its primary focus is on establishing a mutual defense pact.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

94. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the political regime in Bangladesh.
(A) Bangladesh emerged as an independent state in 1971.
(B) It has a parliamentary system of government.
(C) The Awami League and Bangladesh Nationalist Party are major political forces.
(D) The country has never experienced military intervention in politics.

95. Read the following list of strategic objectives:
I. Promoting sustainable growth and balanced development
II. Establishing a military command structure
III. Focusing on maritime safety and security
IV. Enhancing trade and investment facilitation
Which of the above are the objectives of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)?
(A) I, III, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

96. What is "Blue Economy" in the context of the Indo-Pacific?
(A) An economic system characterized by a total and sole reliance on aviation.
(B) Sustainable use of ocean resources for growth and improved livelihoods.
(C) An economic system that is entirely free of any forms of national taxation.
(D) Trade and commerce activities conducted exclusively within international waters.

97. Which of the following best describes the "Security Dilemma" in the Indo-Pacific?
(A) Sovereign states cooperating extensively to combat maritime piracy.
(B) One state's naval modernization provoking regional arms competition.
(C) The formal signing of numerous bilateral free trade agreements.
(D) Unilateral withdrawal of military forces from all disputed territories.

98. Arrange the independence years of the following countries in chronological order:
I. Myanmar
II. India
III. Maldives
IV. Bangladesh
(A) II, I, III, IV
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, III, I, IV
(D) I, II, IV, III

99. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Indo-Pacific construct has largely superseded the Asia-Pacific construct in strategic discourse.
Reason (R): It acknowledges the strategic linkage between the Indian and Pacific Oceans and the rising prominence of India.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

100. Which of the following is considered an external threat to human security?
(A) Domestic poverty
(B) Endemic corruption
(C) Domestic ethnic violence
(D) Transnational pandemics

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153. Match the Extra-regional strategy elements in List I to the acting power in List II:
List I: Strategy Elements
P. Belt and Road Initiative
Q. Indo-Pacific Strategy Report (2019)
R. Supply Chain Resilience Initiative
S. Far East Development
List II: Acting Power
1. United States
2. China
3. Russia
4. Japan, India, Australia
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

154. Which is a key challenge to democratization in South Asia?
(A) Presence of deeply entrenched caste and ethnic divisions.
(B) Maintenance of consistently high levels of national literacy.
(C) The total absence of a functional or stable middle class.
(D) Complete and total lack of organized national political parties.

155. Applying the concept of "Bandwagoning" to the Indo-Pacific, a smaller state would:
(A) Form an alliance with other small states to counter a rising regional hegemon.
(B) Maintain a position of strict and total neutrality in international affairs.
(C) Choose to develop and maintain nuclear weapon capabilities independently.
(D) Align with the rising hegemon to seek security or economic benefits.

156. Which statement incorrectly defines human security?
(A) It addresses "freedom from fear" and "freedom from want."
(B) It focuses on the state as the primary referent object of security.
(C) It includes food, health, and environmental security.
(D) It recognizes that threats can be non-military.

157. Read the following list of colonial consequences:
I. Introduction of modern bureaucratic systems
II. Systematic deindustrialization of indigenous economies
III. Demarcation of artificial political boundaries
IV. Complete eradication of traditional religions
V. Creation of English-educated elites
Which of the above are identified as consequences of colonialism in South Asia?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

158. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Globalization has led to an erosion of absolute state sovereignty in economic matters.
Reason (R): International institutions like the WTO impose binding rules that domestic governments must follow.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

159. The Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands dispute involves which two main parties?
(A) Japan and China
(B) China and Philippines
(C) South Korea and North Korea
(D) India and Sri Lanka

160. Arrange the following external interventions/ engagements in the Indo-Pacific in chronological order:
I. US "Pivot to Asia" announcement
II. Launch of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)
III. First formal meeting of the Quad at the ministerial level
IV. Formation of AUKUS
(A) I, II, III, IV
(B) II, I, IV, III
(C) I, III, II, IV
(D) III, I, II, IV

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145. Evaluate the scenario: A multinational corporation sets up factories in a developing nation due to relaxed labor laws following LPG reforms, leading to rapid GDP growth but significant environmental degradation. This highlights a conflict between:
(A) Competition between traditional security needs and state sovereignty.
(B) Interaction between economic globalization and human security.
(C) Direct conflict between privatization efforts and militarization.
(D) Relationship between liberalization and theories of democratic peace.

146. Which pair incorrectly matches the political regime challenge with the country?
(A) India - Transition from monarchy to republic
(B) Sri Lanka - Ethnic conflict and executive power consolidation
(C) Pakistan - Civil-military imbalance
(D) Myanmar - Democratic backsliding and military junta

147. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Cold War dynamics deeply influenced post-independence political regimes in South Asia.
Reason (R): Superpowers frequently provided military and economic aid to influence domestic politics and foreign policy alignments in the region.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

148. The "Gujral Doctrine" of India's foreign policy emphasized:
(A) Adoption of aggressive military posturing against regional neighbors.
(B) Commitment to a policy of strict and total national isolationism.
(C) Choosing to align explicitly and formally with the former Soviet Union.
(D) Making non-reciprocal accommodations to smaller regional neighbors.

149. Read the following list of economic elements:
I. Reduction of state monopolies
II. Introduction of corporate competition
III. Total elimination of market regulation
IV. Sale of government equity in public enterprises
Which of the above elements define the impact of privatization?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

150. Arrange the following steps of economic integration from least integrated to most integrated:
I. Customs Union
II. Free Trade Area
III. Economic Union
IV. Common Market
(A) II, I, IV, III
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, IV, I, III
(D) I, III, II, IV

151. What is the core characteristic of a "Strategic Partnership"?
(A) It necessitates the formation of an explicit and formal mutual defense pact.
(B) It is limited strictly and exclusively to cultural and educational exchanges.
(C) It requires all participating states to adopt and share a single currency.
(D) It involves cooperation on broad issues without a formal alliance treaty.

152. Read the following statements on the Indo-Pacific:
Statement I: ASEAN centrality is a core principle acknowledged by most extra-regional powers in the Indo-Pacific.
Statement II: The Quad has explicitly declared itself as an "Asian NATO".
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

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169. The Kalapani territory dispute is a friction point in the relations between:
(A) India and Bangladesh
(B) Pakistan and Iran
(C) India and Nepal
(D) Bhutan and China

170. Arrange the following developments in globalization in chronological order:
I. Creation of the Bretton Woods institutions (IMF/World Bank)
II. Establishment of the World Trade Organization (WTO)
III. 2008 Global Financial Crisis
IV. Initiation of China's economic reforms under Deng Xiaoping
(A) I, IV, II, III
(B) I, II, IV, III
(C) IV, I, II, III
(D) I, IV, III, II

171. What does the term "Chokepoint" mean in geostrategy?
(A) Geographical feature on land that prevents all forms of productive agriculture.
(B) Situation characterized by a total and permanent diplomatic deadlock.
(C) Implementation of a comprehensive and legally binding international trade embargo.
(D) Narrow strategic strait through which maritime traffic must pass.

172. Read the following statements about post-independence nation-building:
Statement I: State building precedes nation building because establishing institutions is easier than forging identity.
Statement II: Linguistic diversity always prevents successful nation-building.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

173. Match the term related to LPG in List I to its key outcome in List II:
List I: LPG Terms
P. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)
Q. Disinvestment
R. Deregulation
S. Tariff Reduction
List II: Key Outcome
1. Lowering barriers to international trade
2. Capital inflow and technology transfer
3. State relinquishing shares in public companies
4. Removing restrictions on private sector operations
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

174. The "ASEAN Way" is characterized by all of the following EXCEPT:
(A) Strict adherence to regional non-interference.
(B) Promotion of the practice of quiet diplomacy.
(C) Commitment to a process of consensus building.
(D) Use of binding legal enforcement mechanisms.

175. Application of "Hedging": A South Asian country receives major infrastructure investments from China while conducting joint military exercises with the USA. This strategy aims to:
(A) Maximize benefits while minimizing risks of over-dependence.
(B) Formally declare a state of war against both competing global powers.
(C) Aim to completely and totally isolate itself from the global economy.
(D) Attempt to strategically merge its entire military apparatus with the USA.

176. Which is an incorrect statement regarding the demographic challenges in South Asia?
(A) A large youth population can be a demographic dividend if properly skilled.
(B) South Asia faces no significant urbanization challenges.
(C) Unemployment among youth contributes to internal security threats.
(D) Migration from rural to urban areas puts immense pressure on infrastructure.

177. Read the following list of international actors:
I. United States
II. France

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3. Reversing colonial rule and gaining independence
4. Relaxing government regulations in the economy

(A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

194. Which is considered an external threat to the state security of India?
(A) Cross-border incursions at the Line of Actual Control (LAC).
(B) Escalation of internal Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) and insurgency.
(C) Ongoing inter-state river water disputes between domestic states.
(D) Political and social demands for the creation of linguistic states.

195. A major reason for the failure of democratization in several post-colonial states is:
(A) The immediate adoption of a singular globalized currency system.
(B) Influx of excessive and unregulated foreign direct investment.
(C) Weak civilian institutions coupled with a politically active military.
(D) Strict and unwavering adherence to policies of non-alignment.

196. Read the following list of factors:
I. Exposure to Western ideas of liberty and democracy
II. Economic exploitation by colonial powers
III. Discovery of oil reserves
IV. Racial discrimination by colonial administrators

Which of the above factors drove the nationalist movements in South Asia?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

197. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Indo-Pacific has seen a rise in 'minilateral' groupings like the Quad and AUKUS.
Reason (R): Broad regional organizations like ASEAN sometimes struggle to respond swiftly to complex security challenges due to the consensus rule.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

198. The term "Demographic Dividend" in South Asia refers to:
(A) The cash and subsidies distributed to citizens during national elections.
(B) Growth potential from shifts toward a larger working-age population.
(C) The systematic division of electoral boundaries based on demographics.
(D) Mandatory taxes collected from expatriate workers living abroad.

199. Identify the incorrect statement about the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC).
(A) It comprises six member countries.
(B) It aims to facilitate closer contacts among the people inhabiting these two major river basins.
(C) It was established in the year 2000 at Vientiane.
(D) China is a founding member of the MGC.

200. Arrange the following global/regional geopolitical doctrines in chronological order:
I. Monroe Doctrine
II. Truman Doctrine
III. Gujral Doctrine
IV. "Pivot to Asia" (Obama Administration)

(A) I, II, III, IV
(B) II, I, III, IV
(C) I, III, II, IV
(D) II, III, I, IV

201. Define "Asymmetric Warfare".
(A) A war fought between two or more equally matched global superpowers.
(B) Economic sanctions applied symmetrically by two competing states.
(C) Conflict where forces possess significantly different military capabilities.
(D) A long-term trade war characterized by high

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185. A state actively modernizes its navy and builds artificial islands in contested waters. This is a strategy primarily aimed at:
(A) Promoting open regionalism
(B) Enhancing human security
(C) Projecting power and securing territorial claims
(D) Complying with international environmental treaties

186. Read the following list regarding the impact of LPG in India:
I. It dismantled the "License Raj".
II. It resulted in a massive surge of FDI.
III. It achieved uniform economic growth across all states.
IV. It expanded the role of the private sector in infrastructure.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

187. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Nation-building in Pakistan has faced continuous challenges.
Reason (R): An overemphasis on religious identity failed to accommodate ethno-linguistic diversity, leading to the secession of Bangladesh.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

188. Which extra-regional power initiated the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" (FOIP) concept first?
(A) United States
(B) Japan
(C) Australia
(D) India

189. Identify the correct pair regarding maritime security initiatives.
(A) BRI - Japan
(B) Asia-Africa Growth Corridor - China
(C) SAGAR - India
(D) Quad - Russia, China, Iran, Pakistan

190. Arrange the following key regional dialogue forums in chronological order of their inception:
I. ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)
II. East Asia Summit (EAS)
III. Shangri-La Dialogue
IV. Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)
(A) I, III, II, IV
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) III, I, IV, II
(D) II, I, III, IV

191. What is the fundamental difference between traditional security and human security?
(A) Traditional security protects states; human security protects individuals.
(B) Traditional security relies on the UN; human security relies on NATO.
(C) Traditional security applies to land; human security applies to oceans.
(D) Conceptually, there is no significant difference between the two terms.

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192. Read the following statements about political regimes:
Statement I: India has maintained a parliamentary democracy since 1947, except for a brief Emergency period.
Statement II: Myanmar's political history is characterized by long periods of military junta rule.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

193. Match the term in List I with its definition in List II:
List I: Term
P. Decolonization
Q. Democratization
R. Privatization
S. Liberalization
List II: Definition
1. Transition to a more democratic political regime
2. Transferring ownership of business from public sector to private sector

III. European Union
IV. Bolivia
V. United Kingdom

Which of the above are extra-regional actors heavily involved in Indo-Pacific geopolitics?
(A) I, II, III, and V
(B) I, II, IV, and V
(C) II, III, IV, and V
(D) I, III, IV, and V

178. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Climate change is a significant human security threat in the Indo-Pacific.
Reason (R): It causes sea-level rise, threatening low-lying island nations and coastal cities with inundation.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

179. APEC operates on the principle of "Open Regionalism", which means:
(A) Policy where all organizational meetings are broadcast live to the public.
(B) Condition where any country can join without any geographical constraints.
(C) Liberalization measures extended to non-members on an MFN basis.
(D) Implementation of open borders to facilitate unrestricted regional migration.

180. Arrange the following South Asian internal conflicts chronologically by their major eruption or escalation:
I. LTTE insurgency in Sri Lanka
II. Naxalite movement in Naxalbari, India
III. Maoist insurgency in Nepal
IV. Balochistan insurgency (first phase post-independence)
(A) IV, II, I, III
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, IV, I, III
(D) IV, I, II, III

181. Define "Geopolitics".
(A) The scientific study of global atmospheric and meteorological phenomena.
(B) The economic mapping and categorization of mineral resources exclusively.
(C) Analysis of geographic influences on international power relationships.
(D) The international legal framework governing activities in outer space.

182. Read the following statements about Sri Lanka's post-independence regime:
Statement I: It transitioned to an Executive Presidency in 1978.
Statement II: It has successfully avoided any ethnic conflict.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

183. Match the specific colonial legacy in List I with its impact on state-building in List II:
List I: Colonial Legacy
P. Arbitrary Borders
Q. Extractive Institutions
R. Favoritism of Specific Ethnicities
S. English Language
List II: Impact on State-building
1. Provided a unifying lingua franca for the elite
2. Sparked inter-ethnic conflicts and resentments
3. Caused lingering territorial disputes
4. Left the post-colonial state economically impoverished
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(C) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(D) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1

184. Which of the following is NOT an impact of globalization on South Asian states?
(A) Total reduction of internal inequality
(B) Increased vulnerability to global financial crises
(C) Cultural homogenization and resistance
(D) Expansion of the IT and service sectors

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and asymmetric tariffs.

202. Read the following statements about IORA:
Statement I: It focuses heavily on maritime security, trade, and disaster risk management.
Statement II: It has a dedicated standing army to enforce peace in the Indian Ocean.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

203. Match the Geopolitical Concepts in List I with their context in List II:
List I: Geopolitical Concepts
P. Chokepoint
Q. Buffer State
R. Sphere of Influence
S. Shatterbelt
List II: Context
1. A neutral state situated between two rival powers
2. A region heavily influenced by a major power, culturally and economically
3. A geographically narrow waterway critical for maritime transit
4. A region characterized by chronic instability and competing external interventions
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

204. Which is the exception to the primary drivers of India's "Look East" policy?
(A) The need for new economic markets post-1991 reforms
(B) Establishing military bases in Australia
(C) Countering the rising influence of China in Southeast Asia
(D) Developing India's landlocked Northeastern states

205. If a state successfully establishes a monopoly on violence but fails to create an inclusive national identity, it experiences a deficit in:
(A) State-building
(B) Liberalization
(C) Nation-building
(D) Hard power

206. Read the following list regarding the impact of LPG policies:
I. Improved access to consumer goods and healthcare technologies.
II. Increased precariousness of informal labor.
III. Complete elimination of food insecurity.
IV. Widening gap between urban rich and rural poor.
Which of the above statements describe the impact of LPG policies on human security in South Asia?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

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207. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Sir Creek remains a contentious issue between India and Pakistan.
Reason (R): It holds significant strategic value due to potential oil and gas reserves and determining maritime boundaries in the Arabian Sea.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

208. A country relies heavily on a single maritime route for 80% of its energy imports. An adversary blocks this route. This exposes the country's:
(A) Demographic vulnerability
(B) Geostrategic vulnerability at a chokepoint
(C) Failed democratization
(D) Excess privatization

209. Identify the correct pair regarding regional integration bodies and their primary geographical focus.
(A) SAARC - Southeast Asia
(B) BIMSTEC - Bay of Bengal Region
(C) ASEAN - South Asia
(D) ARF - Atlantic Ocean

210. Which is a consequence of "Liberalisation" in a developing economy?
(A) Reduction in import tariffs and quotas
(B) Increase in state-owned monopolies
(C) Banning of foreign currency
(D) Nationalization of private industries

211. What is the defining feature of a "Maritime Domain Awareness" (MDA) strategy?
(A) Strategy based on completely ignoring all international waters.
(B) Policy focused on building the largest possible naval cruise ships.
(C) Comprehensive understanding of all maritime domain associations.
(D) Process of privatizing all national and regional coast guard services.

212. Read the following statements on APEC:
Statement I: It aims to establish a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP).
Statement II: India is a founding member of APEC.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

213. Match the political challenge in List I with the concept in List II:
List I: Political Challenge
P. Ethnic Secessionism
Q. Civil-Military imbalance
R. Authoritarianism
S. Populism
List II: Concept
1. Military dictating national policy
2. A group seeking an independent state
3. Concentration of power in an unaccountable leader
4. Appealing to ordinary people who feel disregarded by elites
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

214. Which is not considered a traditional element of "National Power"?
(A) Geography
(B) Global weather patterns
(C) Population
(D) Military capacity

215. A post-colonial state adopts federalism to accommodate diverse linguistic groups. This is a tool for:
(A) Efforts toward external balancing.
(B) Use of import substitution models.
(C) Initiation of privatization schemes.
(D) Nation-building and conflict resolution.

216. Read the following list of strategic components:
I. Enhancing connectivity with Southeast Asia
II. Promoting cultural exchanges
III. Expanding defense partnerships
IV. Joining NATO
Which of the above are components of India's "Act East Policy"?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) II, III, and IV
(C) I, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

217. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Indo-Pacific has replaced the Asia-Pacific as the primary geopolitical theater.
Reason (R): China's Belt and Road Initiative and its naval expansion in the Indian Ocean necessitate a broader strategic framework.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

218. The "Look East Policy" was initiated under the prime ministership of:
(A) P.V. Narasimha Rao
(B) Jawaharlal Nehru
(C) Indira Gandhi
(D) Narendra Modi

219. Identify the correct statement regarding SAARC.
(A) It has a fully functional common currency.

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(B) Its headquarters is in New Delhi.
(C) It successfully implemented a customs union in 2000.
(D) It includes Afghanistan as its newest member.

220. Which dynamic best illustrates the cause-effect relationship of the Security Dilemma?
(A) State A increases trade, and State B subsequently increases trade.
(B) State A builds defenses, and State B expands its offensive arsenal.
(C) State A signs a climate treaty, while State B chooses to withdraw.
(D) State A privatizes all banks, while State B nationalizes them.

221. What describes "Soft Power" in the context of extra-regional influence?
(A) Use of extensive naval blockades against rivals.
(B) Strategy of deploying elite special forces units.
(C) Attraction through culture and political values.
(D) Implementation of severe economic trade sanctions.

222. Read the following statements about colonization in South Asia:
Statement I: It integrated the regional economy into the global capitalist system, albeit on unequal terms.
Statement II: It resulted in the completely equitable distribution of wealth.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

223. Match the geopolitical actor in List I with their primary maritime initiative in List II:
List I: Geopolitical Actor
P. India
Q. USA
R. China
S. ASEAN
List II: Maritime Initiative
1. Maritime Silk Road
2. Indo-Pacific Strategy
3. SAGAR
4. ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

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224. Which is an exception to the goals of democratization?
(A) Ensuring free and fair elections
(B) Establishing a permanent military junta
(C) Protecting human rights
(D) Upholding the rule of law

225. Applying the "Domino Theory" historically in Southeast Asia, the US intervened to:
(A) Establish numerous regional free trade zones.
(B) Prevent the spread of communism between states.
(C) Combat and suppress regional maritime piracy.
(D) Actively promote global environmentalism goals.

226. Read the following list regarding BIMSTEC:
I. It connects South Asia and Southeast Asia.
II. Pakistan is a founding member.
III. It emphasizes technical and economic cooperation.
IV. It was established through the Bangkok Declaration.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, III, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, II, and IV

227. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Globalization has a contradictory impact on nationalism.
Reason (R): While it integrates economies globally, it often triggers local cultural anxieties leading to a resurgence of hyper-nationalism.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

(D) I, II, and IV

247. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).

Assertion (A): Democratization in South Asia is often described as uneven or staggered.

Reason (R): Countries in the region have oscillated between democratic governance and authoritarian or military regimes.

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

248. Which factor most heavily hampers the development cooperation mandated by SAARC?

(A) Bilateral political hostilities between key member states.
(B) Total and complete lack of any formal governing charter.
(C) Explicit and direct prohibition by the United Nations body.
(D) Complete and total lack of any shared regional cultural history.

249. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the political trajectory of the Maldives.

(A) It is an island archipelago strategically located in the Indian Ocean.
(B) It has transitioned into a multi-party democracy.
(C) It is a founding member of ASEAN.
(D) Its politics often display competition between pro-India and pro-China factions.

250. The comprehensive process aimed at restructuring a state's economy to allow market forces a greater role, characterized by the 1991 Indian reforms, is collectively termed:

(A) LPG (Liberalisation, Privatisation, and Globalisation)
(B) Nationalization
(C) Import Substitution
(D) Collectivization

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In assessing the contemporary landscape of the Indo-Pacific and South Asia, the geopolitical and geostrategic setting emerges as a critical focal point for academic inquiry. This region's geographic configuration inherently dictates its strategic significance, transforming it into a theater for complex interactions. A prominent case study reveals how the strategic positioning of maritime chokepoints directly influences the involvement of extra-regional powers. These external actors continuously seek to establish strategic footholds to secure their own supply chains and assert naval dominance. Consequently, the geopolitical and geostrategic setting is no longer defined merely by local state interactions but is heavily recalibrated by the persistent role of extra-regional powers. This dynamic creates a scenario where regional autonomy is frequently tested against the strategic ambitions of global actors. Scholars observing this case note that the geostrategic setting essentially mandates a delicate balancing act for local nations, which must navigate immense pressure to align with extra-regional powers while attempting to maintain sovereign strategic independence. The interplay between the fixed geopolitical realities and the fluid interventions of extra-regional powers ultimately dictates the overarching security architecture of the entire Indo-Pacific region.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

251. According to the source, what does the geographic configuration of the Indo-Pacific dictate?

(A) Rapid economic globalization
(B) Its strategic significance
(C) The cessation of local conflicts
(D) The reduction of external naval forces

252. How do extra-regional powers influence the geopolitical and geostrategic setting?

(A) By recalibrating it through persistent interventions
(B) By voluntarily withdrawing from all strategic maritime chokepoints
(C) By relying solely on local states to maintain overarching security
(D) By strictly maintaining the sovereign regional autonomy of local states

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(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

238. The transition from the GATT to the WTO in 1995 primarily accelerated:
(A) Cold War bipolarity
(B) Colonization
(C) Nuclear proliferation
(D) Globalisation and trade liberalization

239. Identify the correct statement regarding SAFTA.
(A) It stands for South Asian Free Trade Area.
(B) It completely eliminated all tariffs in South Asia by 2000.
(C) It includes China as a core member.
(D) It deals exclusively with military equipment trade.

240. The concept of "Exclusive Economic Zone" (EEZ) was formalized by:
(A) Legal framework of the Geneva Conventions.
(B) Legal framework established by the UNCLOS.
(C) Climate goals of the Kyoto Protocol treaty.
(D) Standards set by the Paris Agreement on climate.

241. What defines "Non-Traditional Security"?
(A) Security against conventional and direct military attacks.
(B) Survival challenges arising from non-military sources.
(C) Policy aimed at protecting ancient historical sites only.
(D) Focus on ensuring cybersecurity for national militaries.

242. Read the following statements on APEC and ARF:
Statement I: APEC deals primarily with economic growth and trade.
Statement II: ARF serves as a platform for political and security dialogue.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

243. Match the Regional issue in List I with the associated Country/Countries in List II:
List I: Regional Issue
P. Teesta River Dispute
Q. South China Sea Disputes
R. Chakma Refugee issue
S. Madhesi Protests
List II: Country/Countries
1. India and Bangladesh
2. ASEAN states and China
3. Bangladesh and India
4. Nepal
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

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244. Which is an exception to the positive impacts of Globalization in South Asia?
(A) Higher economic growth rates
(B) Increased access to global technology
(C) Greater foreign exchange reserves
(D) Eradication of the informal labor sector

245. Applying the concept of "Complex Interdependence," how does economic integration affect regional security?
(A) It makes conflict more likely due to increased resource competition.
(B) It necessitates that states fully and completely merge militaries.
(C) It reduces force utility due to potential mutual economic damage.
(D) It has no observable effect on national security calculations.

246. Read the following statements regarding the "Indo-Pacific" concept:
I. It bridges the Indian and Pacific Oceans.
II. It dilutes the geographical centrality of China in Asian geopolitics.
III. It promotes multipolarity in the region.
IV. It advocates for the closure of international straits.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III
(B) II, III, and IV
(C) I, III, and IV

(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

228. The concept of "Open Regionalism" is most closely associated with:
(A) SAARC
(B) NATO
(C) Warsaw Pact
(D) APEC

229. Identify the incorrect pair regarding border lines.
(A) Radcliffe Line - India and Pakistan
(B) McMahon Line - India and China
(C) Line of Control (LoC) - India and Nepal
(D) Durand Line - Pakistan and Afghanistan

230. A state experiences severe flooding displacing millions due to climate change. This primarily constitutes a failure or breach in:
(A) Military deterrence
(B) Human security
(C) Alliance politics
(D) Privatization

231. What is a "Customs Union" in regional trade?
(A) Agreement to eliminate all national border guards.
(B) Creation of a single and unified regional currency.
(C) Military alliance characterized by joint procurement.
(D) Free trade area with a common external tariff system.

232. Read the following statements on strategic partnerships:
Statement I: They are legally binding defense treaties requiring mutual defense in war.
Statement II: They allow for deep cooperation in defense, technology, and trade while maintaining strategic autonomy.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

233. Match the internal threat in List I to the region heavily affected in List II:
List I: Internal Threat
P. Rohingya Crisis
Q. Baloch Insurgency
R. Tamil Separatism (historical)
S. LWE/Naxalism
List II: Affected Region
1. Sri Lanka
2. Myanmar/Bangladesh border
3. India
4. Pakistan
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

234. Which is not a feature of a modern nation-state?
(A) Nomadic government
(B) Defined territory
(C) Permanent population
(D) Sovereignty

235. Evaluating the geostrategic location of Sri Lanka, its primary strategic value lies in:
(A) Possession of massive and untapped oil reserves.
(B) Development of nuclear weapons launch capability.
(C) Existence of a large continental national landmass.
(D) Proximity to major Indian Ocean maritime sea lanes.

236. Read the following list of economic elements:
I. Selling government equity
II. Strategic sale of PSUs
III. Complete state monopoly
IV. Encouraging private competition
Which of the above elements characterize "Privatization" in the LPG framework?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, II, and III
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I, III, and IV

237. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Extra-regional powers maintain naval bases in the Indian Ocean.
Reason (R): They need to protect their sea lines of communication and ensure energy security.

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253. What must local nations navigate according to the observed case?
(A) Maintaining total economic isolation from all global actors
(B) Negotiating the absolute absence of maritime chokepoints
(C) Immense pressure to align with external powers
(D) Exercising unrestricted sovereign strategic independence

254. What is the primary reason extra-regional powers seek strategic footholds?
(A) To facilitate successful democratic transitions across the region
(B) To eradicate the complex historical legacies of regional colonialism
(C) To promote localized environmental sustainability and resource equity
(D) To secure supply chains and naval dominance

255. The overarching security architecture of the Indo-Pacific is dictated by the interplay between:
(A) Advancing economic privatization and expanding local trade networks
(B) Fostering internal state building and democratic consolidation
(C) Fixed geopolitical realities and external interventions
(D) Preserving cultural homogeneity and promoting nationalist movements

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The historical trajectory of South Asia is deeply intertwined with the intersecting phenomena of colonialism, nationalism, and independence movements. A comprehensive analysis of early twentieth-century political mobilization highlights a distinct scenario where the entrenched structures of colonialism inadvertently catalyzed unified nationalist sentiments. Under colonial administration, indigenous populations faced systemic political exclusion and economic exploitation, which served as the primary grievances fueling initial resistance. This shared experience of subjugation functioned as a unifying force, transforming fragmented regional identities into a cohesive expression of nationalism. The resulting independence movements were not monolithic; rather, they represented complex coalitions driven by a unified rejection of colonialism. Through this case, it becomes evident that nationalism emerged as a direct ideological countermeasure to the overarching framework of colonial rule. Independence movements subsequently leveraged this potent nationalist sentiment to mobilize mass participation, methodically challenging and eventually dismantling the administrative apparatus of colonialism. Consequently, the transition to sovereignty cannot be understood in isolation from the preceding colonial context, as the very nature and strategies of the independence movements were structurally determined by the precise mechanisms of colonial domination they sought to overthrow.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

256. What inadvertently catalyzed unified nationalist sentiments during the early twentieth century?
(A) The rapid expansion of regional trade blocks
(B) The entrenched structures of colonialism
(C) The introduction of global privatization policies
(D) The peaceful transition to independent governance

257. According to the passage, what served as the primary grievances fueling initial resistance?
(A) Global economic fluctuations and technological gaps
(B) Democratic elections and institutional overreach
(C) The intervention of extra-regional naval powers
(D) Systemic political exclusion and economic exploitation

258. How did the shared experience of subjugation affect the indigenous populations?
(A) It unified identities into cohesive nationalism
(B) It fragmented their regional identities further into localized groups
(C) It encouraged complete assimilation into the colonial administration
(D) It immediately generated a permanent democratic framework for all

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259. The independence movements described in the source can best be characterized as:
(A) Monolithic entities with singular and identifiable historical origins
(B) Purely economic forums seeking widespread trade liberalization
(C) Coalitions driven by a rejection of colonialism
(D) Collaborative efforts supported by various colonial administrations

260. Why can the transition to sovereignty not be understood in isolation from the colonial context?
(A) Because strategies were determined by colonial mechanisms
(B) Because colonialism successfully integrated all regional identities into one
(C) Because independent states immediately restored all pre-colonial borders
(D) Because sovereignty eliminated all internal challenges to democratization

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The post-colonial transition in South Asia frequently reveals a complex friction between the imperatives of nation building, state building, and persistent challenges to democratization. In a notable scenario analyzing newly independent entities, the deliberate process of state building—characterized by the centralization of administrative power and the establishment of robust institutions—often clashes with the emotional and cultural dynamics of nation building. While state building requires institutional uniformity to project authority, nation building demands the integration of diverse ethnic and linguistic identities into a singular national consciousness. This inherent tension frequently generates profound challenges to democratization. When state authorities prioritize rigid institutional control over inclusive identity formation, marginalized groups often experience systemic alienation. Such exclusion inherently disrupts the democratic process, fostering severe political instability. Consequently, challenges to democratization are frequently rooted in the state's inability to harmonize the rigid structural requirements of state building with the flexible, inclusive strategies necessary for effective nation building. The failure to reconcile these dual processes creates an environment where democratic institutions remain fragile, often succumbing to authoritarian pressures as leaders attempt to forcefully unify a fractured populace under a dominant state apparatus.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

261. According to the source, state building is primarily characterized by:
(A) The comprehensive integration of diverse ethnic identities
(B) The immediate establishment of multiple free-trade zones
(C) The complete decentralization of cultural and legal authority
(D) Centralization of power and robust institutions

262. What does nation building demand, in contrast to state building?
(A) Maintaining institutional uniformity to project state authority
(B) Integrating diverse identities into one consciousness
(C) The systematic exclusion of linguistic minorities from politics
(D) The establishment of strict and permanent border militarization

263. When state authorities prioritize rigid institutional control over inclusive identity formation, what is a frequent result?
(A) The rapid consolidation of democratic practices
(B) The harmonious integration of all cultural factions
(C) The systemic alienation of marginalized groups
(D) The voluntary withdrawal of authoritarian leaders

264. What inherently disrupts the democratic process in the described scenario?
(A) The excessive flexibility of state institutions
(B) The successful reconciliation of state and nation building
(C) The complete absence of ethnic and linguistic diversity
(D) The systemic exclusion of marginalized

groups

265. Why do democratic institutions often remain fragile in newly independent entities?
(A) Authorities fail to harmonize structure with nation building
(B) Because nation building completely overshadows the need for administrative power
(C) Because state building is entirely abandoned by post-colonial governments
(D) Because democratization requires the complete dismantling of the state apparatus

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

An examination of post-independence developments in the South Asian context highlights the volatile evolution of various political regimes. Following the initial transition to sovereignty, a recurrent case pattern emerges wherein states experience substantial shifts between democratic governance and authoritarian political regimes. These post-independence developments are deeply influenced by the structural legacies left behind by former colonial administrations. In several instances, the inability of civilian governments to effectively manage rapid economic and social transformations has precipitated crises of legitimacy. Consequently, alternative political regimes, often characterized by centralized military or autocratic control, have emerged, positioning themselves as the sole guarantors of national stability. This cyclical nature of post-independence developments demonstrates that the establishment of a permanent political framework is rarely a linear process. Instead, the consolidation of political regimes is constantly contested by competing domestic factions vying for power. Scholars note that understanding these post-independence developments requires analyzing how systemic institutional weaknesses provide fertile ground for the rapid alteration of political regimes. Ultimately, the stability of any given regime in this region remains heavily contingent upon its capacity to maintain institutional legitimacy amidst ongoing socio-economic pressures.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

266. What pattern frequently emerges following the initial transition to sovereignty?
(A) A permanent and uninterrupted era of stable democratic governance
(B) Shifts between democratic and authoritarian regimes
(C) The total and final elimination of all domestic political factions
(D) Immediate and total resolution of all regional socio-economic pressures

267. The post-independence developments in political regimes are deeply influenced by:
(A) The immediate success of post-colonial economic and trade reforms
(B) Structural legacies of former colonial administrations
(C) The complete absence of state military forces within the territory
(D) The sudden influx of unregulated and high-volume foreign investment

268. What often precipitates crises of legitimacy for civilian governments?
(A) Inability to manage rapid economic and social changes
(B) Their overwhelming success in forging cohesive nation building
(C) The voluntary handover of state power to autocratic military leaders
(D) Their total and exclusive reliance on pre-colonial administrative structures

269. How do alternative political regimes typically position themselves when they emerge?
(A) As temporary facilitators of democratic transitions
(B) As the primary instigators of institutional weakness
(C) As the sole guarantors of national stability
(D) As staunch defenders of decentralized governance

270. According to scholars, the stability of any given regime in the region is heavily contingent upon:
(A) Its ability to eliminate all forms of regional socio-economic pressure
(B) The complete and final eradication of all competing domestic factions
(C) The establishment of a linear and predictable process for consolidation

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alternative avenues, states increasingly pivot toward BIMSTEC to forge a reliable strategic partnership that bridges South and Southeast Asia. This shift illustrates a pragmatic approach to regional architecture: when one institution fails to facilitate regional trade and development cooperation, member states dynamically reallocate their diplomatic capital to alternative organizations. Through this case, it is evident that a sustainable strategic partnership requires more than mere geographical proximity; it necessitates aligned economic interests and the political will to overcome bilateral disputes to prioritize overarching regional trade and development cooperation frameworks.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

281. How has ASEAN distinguished itself in the context of regional trade?
(A) Cultivating a highly integrated economic zone
(B) By frequently encountering systemic political deadlocks among its members
(C) By entirely abandoning all development cooperation and trade initiatives
(D) By strictly limiting the scope of its ongoing regional strategic partnerships

282. According to the source, what severely impedes meaningful regional trade within SAARC?
(A) The overabundance of development cooperation frameworks
(B) Systemic political deadlocks among its member states
(C) The successful cultivation of a highly integrated economic zone
(D) The exclusive reliance on extra-regional economic powers

283. Why do states increasingly pivot toward BIMSTEC?
(A) To dismantle all existing regional trade agreements and partnerships
(B) To bridge South and Southeast Asia
(C) To completely replace the geographic and political boundaries of ASEAN
(D) To deliberately induce systemic political deadlocks within institutions

284. What pragmatic approach to regional architecture is illustrated by the shift to BIMSTEC?
(A) Reallocating capital to alternative organizations
(B) States permanently abandon all forms of development cooperation programs
(C) States exclusively rely on geographical proximity without institutional help
(D) States intentionally isolate themselves from broader regional trade flows

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285. A sustainable strategic partnership requires more than geographical proximity; it also necessitates:
(A) The intentional amplification of all historical bilateral regional disputes
(B) The immediate and total dissolution of organizations like SAARC and ASEAN
(C) Aligned interests and overcoming disputes
(D) A complete and permanent reliance on systemic political deadlocks for stability

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The expansive maritime and continental geography of the Indo-Pacific necessitates diverse multilateral platforms to sustain regional trade, development cooperation, and strategic partnership. A comparative analysis of IORA, ARF, APEC, and the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation highlights the specialized utility of these forums. APEC primarily serves as an engine for accelerating regional trade through tariff reductions and market integrations, catering to the economic imperatives of its members. Simultaneously, the ARF functions as a crucial dialogue mechanism focused on security, thereby laying the political groundwork necessary for a stable strategic partnership. On a more localized level, the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation exemplifies targeted development cooperation, focusing heavily on capacity building and cultural connectivity between specific sub-regions. Furthermore, IORA attempts to unify Indian Ocean littoral states by intertwining elements of regional trade with maritime safety initiatives. This multifaceted scenario demonstrates that no single organization can encompass all regional needs. Instead, the simultaneous operation of IORA, ARF, APEC, and Mekong-Ganga

A prominent scenario involves overlapping jurisdictional claims over resource-rich maritime zones and strategically vital archipelagos. These complex regional territorial and maritime issues often remain unresolved due to ambiguous historical demarcations and competing economic interests among littoral states. The protracted nature of these disputes creates a strategic vacuum, which actively facilitates the increasing role of extra-regional powers. Seeking to secure critical sea lanes of communication and ensure unhindered resource transit, these external actors frequently interject themselves into localized conflicts. Consequently, the regional territorial and maritime issues undergo a process of internationalization, transforming localized disputes into broader geopolitical flashpoints. The role of extra-regional powers often complicates the negotiation processes, as local states may leverage external military or diplomatic support to bolster their respective claims. This dynamic demonstrates that managing regional territorial and maritime issues is no longer an exclusive regional prerogative but is fundamentally heavily intertwined with the overarching strategic calculations and active role of extra-regional powers.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

276. What serves as a frequent catalyst for the intervention of extra-regional powers in the Indo-Pacific?
(A) Regional territorial and maritime issues
(B) The complete and final resolution of all regional maritime borders
(C) The voluntary withdrawal of local states from strategic archipelagos
(D) The establishment of unified and integrated regional economic zones

277. Why do regional territorial and maritime issues often remain unresolved?
(A) Due to the immediate and total consensus among all littoral member states
(B) Because extra-regional powers force local states to abandon their claims
(C) Due to the complete absence of strategic resources in these maritime zones
(D) Ambiguous historical claims and competing interests

278. What facilitates the increasing role of extra-regional powers in localized conflicts?
(A) The total military dominance of a single and powerful local nation state
(B) Strategic vacuum from protracted maritime disputes
(C) The strict enforcement of undisputed historical demarcations by all states
(D) The lack of any critical sea lanes in the designated geopolitical region

279. What happens when regional territorial and maritime issues undergo a process of internationalization?
(A) Extra-regional powers lose all interest in the strategic archipelagos
(B) Competing economic interests among littoral states miraculously disappear
(C) Localized disputes are transformed into broader geopolitical flashpoints
(D) Local states entirely forfeit their maritime jurisdictional claims

280. How might local states leverage the involvement of extra-regional powers?
(A) To unilaterally surrender their sovereign rights to external actors
(B) To permanently expel all external powers and actors from the region
(C) To intentionally collapse their own negotiation and diplomatic processes
(D) Bolstering claims through external support

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The architecture of economic integration in South Asia and the Indo-Pacific relies heavily upon institutional frameworks designed to foster regional trade, development cooperation, and strategic partnership. Analyzing a collective scenario involving organizations such as SAARC, ASEAN, and BIMSTEC reveals varied trajectories of success and stagnation. Within ASEAN, robust frameworks for regional trade have successfully cultivated a highly integrated economic zone, fundamentally enhancing development cooperation among member states. In stark contrast, SAARC frequently encounters systemic political deadlocks that severely impede meaningful regional trade and limit the scope of development cooperation. Seeking

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(D) Capacity to maintain legitimacy amidst social pressures

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The proliferation of regional territorial and maritime issues in the Indo-Pacific region constitutes a persistent challenge to strategic stability, frequently serving as a catalyst for the intervention of extra-regional powers. A prominent scenario involves overlapping jurisdictional claims over resource-rich maritime zones and strategically vital archipelagos. These complex regional territorial and maritime issues often remain unresolved due to ambiguous historical demarcations and competing economic interests among littoral states. The protracted nature of these disputes creates a strategic vacuum, which actively facilitates the increasing role of extra-regional powers. Seeking to secure critical sea lanes of communication and ensure unhindered resource transit, these external actors frequently interject themselves into localized conflicts. Consequently, the regional territorial and maritime issues undergo a process of internationalization, transforming localized disputes into broader geopolitical flashpoints. The role of extra-regional powers often complicates the negotiation processes, as local states may leverage external military or diplomatic support to bolster their respective claims. This dynamic demonstrates that managing regional territorial and maritime issues is no longer an exclusive regional prerogative but is fundamentally heavily intertwined with the overarching strategic calculations and active role of extra-regional powers.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

271. How do external threats to state security affect internal vulnerabilities according to the passage?
(A) They completely neutralize internal vulnerabilities
(B) They remain totally isolated from internal state dynamics
(C) They directly exacerbate internal vulnerabilities
(D) They spontaneously resolve resource scarcity

272. Which of the following is identified as an internal crisis that compromises human security?
(A) Transnational insurgency networks operating across various borders
(B) Resource scarcity and political fragmentation
(C) Cross-border military build-ups occurring near disputed territories
(D) The intervention of extra-regional powers into local state affairs

273. What is the consequence of degraded human security on the overarching state apparatus?
(A) It strengthens the state's traditional military and defense capabilities
(B) It renders traditional defense mechanisms completely and fully successful
(C) It guarantees the immediate neutralization of all potential external threats
(D) Weakened state apparatus, amplifying susceptibility

274. Why do traditional state-centric defense mechanisms frequently prove inadequate?
(A) Internal and external threats are highly intertwined
(B) Because they are excessively focused on localized human security issues
(C) Because states refuse to acknowledge cross-border military build-up threats
(D) Because human security naturally resolves all inherent state security deficits

275. What do holistic security frameworks mandate for policymakers?
(A) That human security should be completely decoupled from all state security
(B) That external threats are the only valid focus of state defense mechanisms
(C) State security must be linked to human security
(D) That internal borders should be dissolved to prevent political fragmentation

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The proliferation of regional territorial and maritime issues in the Indo-Pacific region constitutes a persistent challenge to strategic stability, frequently serving as a catalyst for the intervention of extra-regional powers.

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Cooperation creates a complex, overlapping web of institutions. This institutional density is strictly required to holistically advance regional trade, ensure sustainable development cooperation, and solidify long-term strategic partnership objectives across diverse geographic zones.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

286. What is the primary function of APEC as described in the passage?
(A) Focusing heavily on localized cultural connectivity and heritage programs
(B) Unifying Indian Ocean littoral states through various maritime safety acts
(C) Acting exclusively as a regional security dialogue and monitoring mechanism
(D) Accelerating trade through tariff reductions

287. Which organization is highlighted for laying the political groundwork necessary for a stable strategic partnership through security dialogue?
(A) Mekong-Ganga Cooperation
(B) IORA
(C) ARF
(D) APEC

288. The Mekong-Ganga Cooperation exemplifies targeted development cooperation by focusing heavily on:
(A) Market integrations and economic reforms across the entire Indo-Pacific region
(B) Capacity building and cultural connectivity
(C) Accelerating regional trade through massive and widespread tariff reductions
(D) Intertwining regional trade with broad and diverse maritime safety initiatives

289. How does IORA attempt to unify Indian Ocean littoral states?
(A) By exclusively focusing on inland capacity building and agrarian reforms
(B) By acting purely as a continental security dialogue and observation mechanism
(C) By rejecting all forms of targeted development cooperation and trade links
(D) Intertwining trade with maritime safety

290. The simultaneous operation of these diverse organizations demonstrates that:
(A) Institutional density holistically advances trade
(B) A single multilateral platform can encompass all regional needs perfectly
(C) Overlapping institutions fundamentally destroy the possibility of partnerships
(D) Specialized utility forums are highly ineffective for states in the region

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The structural transformation of South Asian economies over the past few decades is predominantly characterized by the profound impact of Liberalisation, Privatisation, and Globalisation (LPG). A detailed examination of recent economic policy shifts reveals how these three pillars have fundamentally reconfigured state-market dynamics. The impact of Liberalisation is most evident in the deliberate dismantling of rigid bureaucratic controls and the reduction of trade barriers, which historically stifled foreign investment. Concurrently, the process of Privatisation has systematically transferred the ownership and management of inefficient state-run enterprises into the hands of the private sector, aiming to foster competitive efficiency. Furthermore, Globalisation has deeply integrated these previously insulated domestic markets into the expansive, highly interdependent global economic system. While the combined impact of Liberalisation, Privatisation, and Globalisation has undeniably accelerated aggregate economic growth and enhanced technological integration, it has simultaneously generated severe socio-economic disparities. The withdrawal of the state from key public sectors via Privatisation has often marginalized vulnerable populations who previously relied on subsidized state services. Consequently, the overarching impact of LPG presents a dual narrative of unprecedented macroeconomic expansion coupled with acute microeconomic vulnerabilities and widening societal inequalities.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

291. How is the impact of Liberalisation most evident in the described economies?
(A) In the systematic transfer of state-run enterprises to the diverse private sector
(B) In the deep integration of domestic markets

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ANSWERS

1. (B) Indo-Pacific
The concept highlights the strategic and economic integration of the Indian and Pacific Oceans into a single theater. This shift from the traditional Asia-Pacific framework recognizes the growing global influence of India and the maritime connectivity vital for international trade. It serves as a geopolitical construct to address security challenges and foster regional stability among diverse neighboring nations.

2. (D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct
While the Himalayas form a formidable northern boundary, they do not isolate South Asia from the Indian Ocean, which provides extensive maritime access. The region remains strategically vital due to its proximity to major sea lanes and chokepoints like the Strait of Malacca. These maritime routes are crucial for global energy transport, international commerce, and maintaining regional economic stability.

3. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Indo-Pacific has emerged as a focal point for global power dynamics due to its massive economic output and critical shipping routes. Major powers compete for influence to secure energy supplies and trade paths that transit these waters. This convergence of economic interests and strategic naval locations directly fuels the heightened geopolitical rivalry observed in the region today.

4. (D) Mahan's Sea Power Theory
Alfred Thayer Mahan emphasized that national greatness and prosperity are inextricably linked to maritime strength and control of the seas. His theory advocates for a powerful navy to protect commercial shipping and secure strategic overseas bases. This perspective remains highly influential in contemporary naval doctrines, especially regarding the control of vital sea lanes within the vast Indo-Pacific region.

5. (C) Strait of Gibraltar
Strategic maritime chokepoints in the Indo-Pacific include the Strait of Malacca, the Strait of Hormuz, and Bab el-Mandeb, which are essential for global energy trade. In contrast, the Strait of Gibraltar is located between the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. Because it lies outside the Indian and Pacific maritime zones, it is not considered an Indo-Pacific chokepoint.

6. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
Geopolitical theories and strategic concepts are linked to specific influential thinkers and organizations. Alfred Thayer Mahan is the architect of Sea Power, while Halford Mackinder proposed the Heartland Theory. The term String of Pearls was coined by Booz Allen Hamilton to describe naval expansion. Finally, the Free and Open Indo-Pacific vision was championing by former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

7. (D) Soft balancing
This strategy involves states using non-military tools such as international organizations, diplomatic coalitions, and economic agreements to constrain a hegemon. Unlike hard balancing, which relies on military build-ups and formal alliances, soft balancing seeks to increase the costs of unilateral actions. It allows nations to maintain a stable regional power equilibrium without escalating into direct and risky military confrontations.

8. (A) It lacks any access to the Indian Ocean.
South Asia is characterized by its significant coastline and deep connection to the Indian Ocean, making claims of isolation geographically inaccurate. The region is bounded by the Himalayas in the north and contains several nuclear-armed states. Additionally, its strategic maritime location attracts constant engagement from extra-regional powers seeking to protect their global economic interests and ensure maritime security.

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nationalist political rhetoric
(C) By entirely eliminating the need for healthy private sector competition
(D) By forcing states to permanently close all their international trade borders

298. What faces severe competitive pressures as a result of Privatisation and Globalisation?
(A) The overarching framework of aggressive and permanent border militarization
(B) Domestic industries essential for nation building
(C) The external and fluid economic forces generated by widespread LPG reforms
(D) The hostile political postures demanded by enduring regional territorial disputes

299. The fundamental contradiction revealed in the case involves the conflict between:
(A) The complete success of nation building and the total elimination of all LPG reforms
(B) LPG's open borders vs. security's strict controls
(C) The ideological requirements of globalization and the economic demands of privatization
(D) The cooperative nature of territorial disputes and the hostile nature of regional integration

300. Nationalist rhetoric and strict border controls are often utilized by states as tools for:
(A) Aggressive nation building and territorial issues
(B) Promoting maximum economic efficiency through Globalisation and market access
(C) Dismantling the rigid and established institutions of historical state building
(D) Fostering open borders and cooperative regional integration among all nations

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into the global economic system
(C) Dismantling controls and reducing trade barriers
(D) In the expansion of rigid and inefficient state-run economic monopolies

292. What is the stated goal of transferring inefficient state-run enterprises into the private sector?
(A) To foster competitive efficiency
(B) To strictly isolate domestic markets
(C) To heavily increase bureaucratic controls
(D) To systematically increase foreign trade barriers

293. Globalisation has affected previously insulated domestic markets by:
(A) Completely shielding them from international and competitive efficiency gains
(B) Transferring their ownership strictly back to the central state apparatus
(C) Reinforcing historically rigid and complex foreign trade barriers globally
(D) Integrating them into the global economic system

294. While LPG has accelerated aggregate economic growth, it has simultaneously:
(A) Completely eradicated all microeconomic vulnerabilities
(B) Generated severe socio-economic disparities
(C) Strengthened the state's control over all public sectors
(D) Provided universal subsidies to all marginalized populations

295. Why have vulnerable populations often been marginalized as a result of Privatisation?
(A) Because bureaucratic and administrative controls were massively expanded
(B) Because aggregate economic growth completely bypassed the local private sector
(C) State withdrawal from subsidized public services
(D) Because global economic systems rejected all modern technological integration

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In contemporary South Asia, the trajectory of internal nation building is increasingly complicated by the dual pressures of unresolved regional territorial issues and the sweeping impact of Liberalisation, Privatisation, and Globalisation (LPG). A critical scenario demonstrates that states attempting to forge a cohesive national identity through nation building are frequently derailed by ongoing regional territorial disputes that drain crucial domestic resources toward border militarization. Concurrently, the impact of Liberalisation, Privatisation, and Globalisation introduces external economic forces that challenge the state's sovereign economic control. As Privatisation and Globalisation integrate local economies into international markets, traditional domestic industries—often essential for fostering self-reliant nation building—face severe competitive pressures. Furthermore, cross-border economic dependencies promoted by LPG initiatives frequently clash with the hostile political postures demanded by enduring regional territorial issues. The case reveals a fundamental contradiction: while LPG requires open borders and cooperative regional integration for maximum economic efficiency, unresolved regional territorial issues necessitate strict border controls and nationalist rhetoric, which are often used as tools for aggressive nation building. Consequently, states find themselves perpetually balancing the economic imperatives of LPG against the security demands of regional territorial issues and the ideological requirements of nation building.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

296. According to the scenario, what drains crucial domestic resources away from internal nation building?
(A) The reduction of global border militarization
(B) The total elimination of all cross-border economic dependencies
(C) The success of completely self-reliant domestic industries
(D) Ongoing regional territorial disputes demanding border militarization

297. How does the impact of LPG challenge the state's sovereign economic control?
(A) Introducing external forces and market integration
(B) By strictly mandating aggressive and hostile

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9. (D) I, II, III, and IV
The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, or Quad, is a strategic partnership comprising India, Japan, Australia, and the United States. These four nations collaborate to promote a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific region. Their cooperation focuses on a wide range of issues, including maritime security, infrastructure development, and responding to shared regional challenges through diplomatic and high-level strategic engagement.

10. (A) Nicholas Spykman
Nicholas Spykman developed the Rimland Theory as a critique of Mackinder's Heartland Theory, arguing that the coastal fringes of Eurasia are the keys to global power. He believed that controlling these maritime regions would allow a power to contain the heartland. This concept significantly influenced American containment strategy during the Cold War and remains relevant in modern Indo-Pacific geostrategy.

11. (D) Portugal - Goa
Portugal maintained a long-standing colonial presence in India, with Goa serving as its primary administrative center until its liberation in 1961. Other colonial pairings mentioned are historically incorrect, as Britain controlled Ceylon and the Maldives, while Portugal held Macao. The Portuguese influence in Goa left a distinct cultural and architectural legacy that distinguishes the region from other parts of South Asia.

12. (A) I, II, III, and V
The Free and Open Indo-Pacific vision emphasizes a rules-based international order characterized by the rule of law and freedom of navigation. It seeks to promote regional economic prosperity and ensure that maritime disputes are resolved through peaceful means rather than coercion. Notably, the vision does not advocate for territorial expansion, which would contradict the fundamental principle of regional stability.

13. (C) Balancing economic engagement with strategic security ties to different powers.
Hedging is a sophisticated foreign policy strategy used by smaller or middle powers to avoid choosing between rival superpowers. It involves pursuing deep economic cooperation with one power while maintaining or strengthening security ties with another. This approach minimizes risks and maximizes national benefits, allowing states to protect their sovereignty while navigating the complexities of modern global and regional power competition.

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14. (D) Security Dilemma
In international relations, a security dilemma occurs when one state increases its military capabilities to enhance its own safety. These actions are often perceived as threatening by neighboring states, leading them to respond with their own military build-ups. This cycle of mutual suspicion can result in increased tensions and arms races, even when neither party initially intended to initiate a conflict.

15. (A) I, III, II, IV
The British colonial timeline began with the East India Company's establishment in 1600. The Battle of Plassey in 1757 marked the start of significant territorial control, followed by the 1857 Sepoy Mutiny, which transitioned India to direct Crown rule. Finally, the Indian National Congress was formed in 1885 to represent nationalist aspirations through organized political and social movements for reform.

16. (B) Commercial trade
The initial British entry into the Indian subcontinent was driven by the East India Company's desire to control the lucrative spice and textile trades. Although the company eventually transitioned into a governing body with political and military power, its foundational goal was profit maximization. This commercial motivation laid the groundwork for the extensive colonial infrastructure and economic systems that followed later.

17. (B) Anti-colonial nationalism unified diverse ethnic groups against foreign rule.
South Asian nationalism emerged as a powerful force that transcended local identities to challenge European colonial domination. By focusing on the shared experience of foreign exploitation, these movements brought together people of different religions, languages, and ethnicities. While methods varied, the unifying goal of self-determination was central to the successful

86. (B) Sunda Strait - Between India and Sri Lanka
The Sunda Strait is actually located in Indonesia, between the islands of Java and Sumatra. The waterway between India and Sri Lanka is the Palk Strait. Other chokepoints are correctly identified: the Strait of Hormuz connects the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman, Bab el-Mandeb links the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, and the Malacca Strait lies between Indonesia and Malaysia.

87. (D) Globalisation and Foreign Direct Investment
When a country seeks to address its trade imbalances by attracting foreign corporations, it is engaging with the principles of globalization and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). This strategy involves opening the domestic market to international capital and technology to boost exports and economic competitiveness. It stands in contrast to protectionist or autarkic policies that seek to limit foreign influence and achieve complete economic self-sufficiency.

88. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Pakistan's democratic history has been marked by frequent interruptions from military coups and long periods of martial law. The military has consistently exerted significant influence over key areas like foreign policy and national security, often sidelining elected civilian leaders. This structural imbalance has made it difficult to establish strong, independent democratic institutions, resulting in a fragile political system that remains susceptible to military intervention.

89. (C) Expansion of economic opportunities alongside rising wealth inequality.
Globalization in South Asia has been a double-edged sword for human security. On one hand, it has created new jobs, attracted investment, and raised millions out of absolute poverty. On the other hand, it has often widened the gap between the wealthy elite and the rural or unskilled poor. This rising inequality can create social friction and leave vulnerable populations more exposed to economic shocks and environmental challenges.

90. (A) Treating a country's trade partners equally without discrimination.
Most Favored Nation (MFN) status is a fundamental principle of international trade where a country agrees to provide the same trade advantages to all its partners. If a nation lowers a tariff for one MFN partner, it must do the same for all others. This prevents discriminatory trade practices and promotes a more open and fair global trading system, which is a core objective of the World Trade Organization.

91. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
Geopolitical theories offer different views on global power. The Heartland Theory focuses on the Eurasian core, while the Rimland Theory emphasizes the importance of coastal regions. Sea Power Theory highlights the role of naval dominance in global influence. The Domino Theory, prominent during the Cold War, suggested that the fall of one nation to communism would inevitably lead to the fall of its neighbors.

92. (B) China
The "String of Pearls" is a strategic concept describing China's efforts to develop a network of commercial and military facilities along its sea lines of communication in the Indian Ocean. This includes port projects in nations like Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Djibouti. While China maintains these are purely commercial, other regional powers, especially India and the US, view them as part of a strategy to project naval power.

93. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
The Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) involves India and five ASEAN countries: Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. However, its primary focus is not on military defense but rather on enhancing cooperation in tourism, culture, education, and transport. The initiative aims to leverage the historical and cultural links between the two regions to foster modern economic and social partnerships and improve regional connectivity.

94. (D) The country has never experienced military intervention in politics.
Bangladesh has a complex political history that has included several periods of military rule and successful coups since its independence in 1971. Although it is currently a parliamentary democracy with major parties like the Awami League, the military has historically been a significant actor in national politics. Recognizing this influence is essential for understanding

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transitioned into a federal democratic republic, marking a significant shift in its governance structure and a new chapter in the nation-building process for the Himalayan state.

27. (A) I, II, IV, and V
Myanmar's journey toward democracy has been obstructed by persistent military intervention and frequent coups that undermine civilian authority. Deep-seated ethnic insurgencies and weak institutional frameworks have further complicated the transition to stable governance. Additionally, external economic sanctions imposed in response to political instability and human rights concerns have created further obstacles to national development and democratic consolidation over the years.

28. (B) Sri Lanka - Absolute Monarchy
Sri Lanka has functioned as a democracy since gaining independence, initially following the Westminster model before adopting an executive presidency. It has never been an absolute monarchy in the modern era. In contrast, India is a parliamentary democracy, Pakistan has faced periodic military rule, and the Maldives operates as a presidential republic, accurately reflecting the diverse political trajectories of South Asia.

29. (C) Power-sharing and federalism
In diverse societies, sustainable state-building requires accommodating various ethnic and linguistic groups through inclusive governance. Power-sharing and federalism allow different communities to have a voice in decision-making and control over local affairs. This approach reduces the likelihood of conflict and secessionist movements, fostering national unity by ensuring that all citizens feel represented and respected within the state's political framework.

30. (A) I, IV, II, III
Significant political milestones in South Asia occurred across different decades. Bangladesh gained independence in 1971. Bhutan held its first democratic elections in early 2008, shortly before Nepal officially abolished its monarchy later that same year. The long-standing Sri Lankan Civil War finally concluded in 2009. This sequence reflects the varied timelines of democratic transitions and conflict resolutions in the region.

31. (A) Forging a shared sense of identity and unity among citizens.
Nation-building is a socio-cultural process distinct from the structural focus of state-building. it involves creating a collective national identity that transcends ethnic, religious, or regional loyalties. By fostering a sense of belonging and shared purpose, nation-building aims to ensure social cohesion and long-term stability, making it essential for the survival and unity of diverse post-colonial societies in South Asia.

32. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Many South Asian nations struggle with internal unity because colonial powers often drew borders based on administrative convenience rather than cultural or historical logic. This resulted in diverse ethnic and linguistic groups being combined within single states or divided between different ones. These inherited divisions continue to spark conflict, making the task of forging a unified national identity extremely difficult.

33. (B) Bangladesh experienced periods of military rule before stabilizing as a democracy.
Bangladesh's political history includes several military coups and periods of martial law following its independence in 1971. While it has since stabilized into a parliamentary democracy, the military played a significant role in its early governance. This trajectory is common in South Asia, where the balance between civilian authority and military influence remains a critical factor in regional political stability.

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34. (A) Executive Presidency
In 1978, Sri Lanka shifted from a parliamentary system to a model featuring a powerful executive presidency. This change concentrated significant authority in the hands of the president, who serves as both the head of state and the head of government. This constitutional framework has deeply influenced the country's political dynamics, governance, and its handling of internal conflicts over several decades.

35. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Internal security threats in South Asia are diverse and deeply rooted in local contexts. India faces the Naxalite insurgency, while Sri Lanka historically dealt with Tamil separatism. Pakistan

continues to navigate challenges from Baloch separatists, and Myanmar is heavily impacted by the ongoing Rohingya crisis. Addressing these complex issues requires a combination of political dialogue, effective governance, and regional socio-economic reforms.

36. (D) Human Security
Human security shifts the focus of protection from the state to the individual. It addresses a wide range of threats to human life and dignity, including poverty, disease, and environmental disasters, alongside physical violence. By emphasizing the well-being and rights of people, this concept provides a more comprehensive framework for understanding and addressing the pervasive vulnerabilities faced in modern societies.

37. (C) Cyber security
The UNDP's 1994 Human Development Report defined human security through seven distinct dimensions: economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political security. While cyber security is a critical concern in the modern digital age, it was not part of the original UNDP framework. The traditional focus remains on ensuring individuals are free from basic threats to their survival, health, and economic stability.

38. (A) I, II, and III
External threats to state security involve actions by foreign actors or entities that jeopardize a nation's sovereignty or territorial integrity. Border skirmishes, cross-border terrorism, and cyber-attacks from abroad are clear examples of such threats. Domestic inflation, however, is primarily an internal economic issue. While inflation can affect national stability, it is not classified as an external security threat to the state.

39. (D) Both human and state security
Water shortages caused by a neighboring country's dam construction create multiple security crises. At the human level, it threatens the livelihoods, food security, and health of the affected population. At the state level, it creates a significant point of international friction and potentially undermines national economic stability. This scenario illustrates how non-military issues can bridge the gap between individual and state-level security.

40. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
Cross-border terrorism remains a major obstacle to peaceful relations between India and Pakistan, often leading to diplomatic freezes and military standoffs. However, the claim that terrorism is exclusively driven by economic grievances is false. In reality, terrorism in the region is fueled by a complex mix of ideological radicalization, political disputes, ethnic grievances, and external state sponsorship alongside socio-economic factors.

41. (A) I, II, III, and IV
Human security in the Indo-Pacific is challenged by several non-traditional threats that directly impact the lives of individuals. These include the effects of climate change, the prevalence of maritime piracy, widespread poverty, and the frequent occurrence of natural disasters. While military alliances are significant for state security, they do not fall under the specific categories of human security concerns identified by international organizations.

42. (A) Kalapani - India and Nepal
The Kalapani territory is a long-standing point of contention between India and Nepal, recently highlighted by updated official maps from both nations. Other listed disputes are mismatched: Sir Creek involves India and Pakistan, the Senkaku Islands are disputed by China and Japan, and the Durand Line is the contested border between Pakistan and Afghanistan. These disputes often stem from varying historical interpretations.

43. (D) Inability of the central government to control peripheral territories.
A primary goal of state-building is the establishment of a government's effective authority over its entire territory. When a central government cannot maintain a monopoly on force or provide basic governance in outlying regions, it signals a failure in the state-building process. This lack of control often leads to insurgencies, lawlessness, and the potential emergence of shadow governance by non-state actors.

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44. (A) I, IV, III, II
Territorial and water-related milestones in South Asia followed a specific historical sequence. The Indus Water Treaty was signed in 1960, followed by the Sino-Indian War in 1962. The Liberation of Bangladesh occurred in 1971, significantly altering the regional map. Much later, the Kargil War took place in 1999. This timeline reflects the ongoing and evolving nature of territorial conflicts in the region.

45. (C) India and China
The McMahon Line serves as the effective border between northeast India and Tibet, but its legal status is rejected by the Chinese government. This disagreement led to the 1962 war and continues to cause tensions along the Line of Actual Control. The dispute highlights the lingering impact of colonial-era border demarcations on modern interstate relations and regional security in South Asia.

46. (D) Overlapping claims of historical sovereignty and maritime EEZs.
The South China Sea is a major flashpoint due to competing territorial claims by China, Vietnam, the Philippines, and others. These disputes involve both historical rights to islands and modern legal claims to Exclusive Economic Zones under international law. The region's strategic importance is further heightened by its significant oil and gas reserves and its role as a vital corridor for global shipping.

47. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Global powers like the United States and European nations have significantly increased their presence in the Indo-Pacific to protect their commercial interests. By engaging in regional security and economic forums, they aim to prevent any single power from achieving total regional hegemony. This involvement creates a complex balance of power as extra-regional actors seek to ensure the freedom of navigation.

48. (B) China
China uses the "Nine-Dash Line" to assert its claim over nearly the entire South China Sea, including areas also claimed by neighboring Southeast Asian nations. This expansive claim is based on historical maps but is largely rejected by the international community and was ruled invalid by a 2016 international tribunal. It remains a primary source of maritime tension in the region today.

49. (A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
Extra-regional powers have developed specific strategies to navigate the Indo-Pacific. The United States initiated the "Pivot to Asia," while Russia promotes its "Greater Eurasian Partnership." France, with its overseas territories, views itself as a "Resident Power" in the region. Meanwhile, the European Union has launched its own "Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific" to enhance its regional economic and security engagement.

50. (A) Collective defense treaties
ASEAN operates under a unique set of principles known as the "ASEAN Way," which emphasizes non-interference in the internal affairs of member states and decision-making by consensus. The organization focuses on peaceful dispute resolution and regional stability through dialogue. Crucially, ASEAN is not a military alliance and does not enter into collective defense treaties, distinguishing it from organizations like NATO or AUKUS.

51. (C) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
Established in 1985, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) serves as an intergovernmental organization for nations in the region. Its primary goal is to promote economic development, social progress, and cultural cooperation among its member states. Despite its potential, the organization's progress has often been hampered by bilateral tensions and political disagreements between its largest members, India and Pakistan.

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52. (D) Increased diplomatic, economic, and military focus on the Indo-Pacific.
The "Pivot to Asia" was a strategic reorientation of United States foreign policy to prioritize the Indo-Pacific region. This move involved shifting naval assets, strengthening alliances, and deepening economic ties with Asian nations to counter rising regional challenges. It signaled a recognition that the region's security and economic health are central to global stability and American interests in the twenty-first century.

independence struggles that eventually reshaped the entire political map of the region.

18. (C) A is true but R is false.
The Partition of 1947 indeed caused massive migration and tragic violence as millions crossed the newly formed borders. However, the reasoning provided is incorrect because the Radcliffe Line was primarily drawn based on religious demographics rather than linguistic lines. The division into Hindu-majority India and Muslim-majority Pakistan ignored many local realities, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis during the transition to independence.

19. (C) Pakistan
The Two-Nation Theory asserted that Hindus and Muslims were two distinct nations with separate cultures, religions, and social values. This ideological framework was the driving force behind the demand for a separate sovereign state for the Muslims of the Indian subcontinent. Consequently, it led to the Partition of India in 1947 and the official creation of the nation of Pakistan.

20. (D) Boxer Rebellion
The Non-Cooperation, Quit India, and Civil Disobedience movements were all integral components of the non-violent struggle led by Mahatma Gandhi against British rule in India. In contrast, the Boxer Rebellion was an anti-foreign and anti-Christian uprising that took place in China. It was not part of the South Asian nationalist movement or the Indian struggle for independence from colonialism.

21. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Independence leaders are historically linked to the specific nations they helped found or lead to freedom. Mahatma Gandhi was a central figure in India's struggle, while Muhammad Ali Jinnah led the movement for Pakistan. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman is the founding father of Bangladesh, and Don Stephen Senanayake served as the first Prime Minister of an independent Sri Lanka after British rule.

22. (B) Religious demographics
Cyril Radcliffe was tasked with drawing the borders between India and Pakistan based on the geographic distribution of Hindu and Muslim majority populations. This focus on religious demographics aimed to create two separate nations for the two communities. However, the haste and lack of detailed local knowledge led to arbitrary divisions that caused immense displacement and long-standing territorial disputes between the nations.

23. (A) Both Statement I and II are correct
During the colonial era, European powers established distinct territories in Southeast Asia. The Dutch East India Company secured control over the vast archipelago that is now modern-day Indonesia. Meanwhile, France established French Indochina, a colonial federation encompassing the current nations of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Both statements accurately reflect the historical administrative divisions imposed by these colonial powers in the region.

24. (C) I, II, and IV
Post-colonial nation-building was severely hindered by several deliberate colonial strategies. "Divide and rule" policies exacerbated internal ethnic and religious tensions, while exploitative economic structures left new states impoverished. Furthermore, the creation of arbitrary borders often split cultural groups or forced rivals together. Unlike these negative impacts, the promotion of education, where it occurred, generally supported rather than delayed nation-building efforts.

25. (C) Establishing functional institutions and a monopoly on the legitimate use of force.
State-building focuses on developing the administrative and coercive capacities of a government. It involves creating durable public institutions that can effectively provide services and maintain law and order across a territory. By securing a monopoly on the legitimate use of physical force, the state ensures internal stability and creates the necessary foundation for sovereign governance and sustained societal development.

26. (A) Nepal
Nepal underwent a historic political transformation in 2008 when it abolished its 240-year-old monarchy. This change followed years of civil unrest and a peace agreement with Maoist insurgents. The country subsequently

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consensus and voluntary actions rather than legally binding treaties. this flexible approach allows a diverse group of economies to work toward shared goals of economic growth and reduced trade barriers at their own pace and capability.

62. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
SAARC has struggled to realize its potential for deep economic integration because of the persistent rivalry between India and Pakistan. Major cooperative initiatives are frequently stalled by bilateral disputes, leading to a lack of political will to implement regional agreements. This paralysis has prompted some member states to look toward other forums, such as BIMSTEC, to achieve their regional cooperation goals.

63. (A) India initiated its comprehensive LPG reforms in 1991.
Faced with a severe balance of payments crisis, India launched a major economic shift toward Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization in 1991. These reforms dismantled the "License Raj," reduced state control, and opened the economy to foreign investment. While the policies aimed to boost growth and modernization, they did not lead to the complete eradication of poverty, which remains a persistent challenge.

64. (B) Increased integration with global markets and supply chains.
Globalization in South Asia has fundamentally reshaped national economies by connecting them more closely with the international market. This process facilitates the flow of capital, technology, and goods across borders, allowing regional industries to participate in global supply chains. While this integration offers opportunities for rapid growth and modernization, it also increases the region's vulnerability to fluctuations in the global economy.

65. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
The components of economic reform are distinct yet interconnected. Liberalisation refers to the removal of state controls and licensing, while Privatisation involves transferring ownership from the public to the private sector. Globalisation is the integration of the domestic economy with the world market. Deregulation focuses on easing government rules on business operations to encourage efficiency and competition within the modern market environment.

66. (A) Cultivate extensive economic and strategic relations with Southeast Asia.
India's "Look East Policy" was launched in the early 1990s as a strategic shift to re-engage with its neighbors in Southeast Asia. The policy aimed to boost trade, enhance maritime security, and provide a counterweight to other regional influences. By strengthening ties with ASEAN nations, India sought to leverage the region's economic dynamism to support its own domestic growth and strategic interests.

67. (C) Unequal distribution of wealth which often leads to social unrest.
While globalization can drive national GDP growth, it often distributes those benefits unevenly, favoring urban centers and skilled workers. This widening wealth gap can exacerbate existing social tensions and lead to internal unrest or political instability in developing states. Addressing this inequality is a critical human security challenge, as marginalized populations may feel left behind by the rapid pace of global economic change.

68. (A) I and III
The "Act East Policy," launched in 2014, represents an upgrade of the earlier "Look East Policy." It goes beyond economic engagement to emphasize proactive strategic, security, and institutional ties across the Indo-Pacific region. While cultural exchange remains a pillar, the policy's scope is much broader, focusing on intense regional connectivity and defense cooperation to address contemporary geopolitical realities in a more assertive manner.

69. (C) A long-term cooperative relationship targeting shared geopolitical objectives.
Strategic partnerships are flexible frameworks that allow nations to collaborate on a wide range of issues, including defense, technology, and trade, without the rigidity of a formal military alliance. These relationships are based on mutual interests and shared visions for regional or global order. They provide a platform for sustained engagement and coordination, helping states

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navigate complex international environments and shared threats.

70. (B) It fosters a complex balance of power and increased maritime militarization.
The active presence of extra-regional powers in the Indo-Pacific creates a dynamic and often tense environment where various interests compete for dominance. This leads to a sophisticated balance of power as nations seek to counter each other's influence. One consequence is increased maritime militarization, as states modernize their navies and establish new bases to protect their strategic interests and ensure freedom of navigation.

71. (B) II and IV
BIMSTEC, the Bay of Bengal Initiative, includes seven member states situated around or dependent on the Bay of Bengal. These are Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Pakistan and the Maldives are notably not members of this organization, as it specifically targets the geographic and strategic integration of the Bay of Bengal sub-region rather than the whole of South Asia.

72. (A) Bangladesh - Ready-made garments
Bangladesh has successfully leveraged globalization to become one of the world's leading exporters of ready-made garments. This industry has significantly boosted the nation's GDP, created millions of jobs—particularly for women—and integrated Bangladesh into global retail supply chains. This case demonstrates how a developing nation can find a competitive niche in the global market through focused economic policies and trade liberalization.

73. (C) Due to absent democratic traditions and deep historical societal cleavages.
Post-colonial states often face immense challenges in democratization because they inherited colonial structures designed for control rather than popular participation. Furthermore, many of these societies are deeply divided by ethnic, religious, or linguistic lines that were sometimes exacerbated by colonial "divide and rule" strategies. Building stable democratic institutions requires overcoming these historical fractures and cultivating a new culture of civic engagement and political compromise.

74. (A) II, III, I, IV
Economic developments in the region followed a clear timeline: India launched LPG reforms in 1991, followed by the establishment of the WTO in 1995. The Asian Financial Crisis then occurred in 1997, highlighting regional vulnerabilities. Much later, in 2006, the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) was implemented. This sequence shows the progression from national reforms to global integration and regional trade agreements.

75. (D) High levels of literacy and civic engagement
Traditional and non-traditional threats to state security include insurgencies, organized crime, and terrorism, all of which undermine the government's authority and social order. In contrast, high levels of literacy and civic engagement are considered strengths that enhance national stability and resilience. An educated and active citizenry is better equipped to support democratic processes and contribute to the peaceful resolution of internal societal conflicts.

76. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Indian Ocean Region is a vital artery of global commerce, particularly for the transport of energy resources from the Middle East to Asian markets. Because so much of the world's seaborne oil passes through its chokepoints, the region is strategically indispensable to global powers. This economic dependency directly drives the increased naval presence and strategic competition among nations seeking to secure these routes.

77. (D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct
Unlike some of its neighbors, Sri Lanka has maintained a democratic system without experiencing military dictatorships. However, its post-independence history was deeply scarred by a decades-long ethnic conflict between the majority Sinhalese-led government and the minority Tamil separatist groups. This internal struggle had profound impacts on the nation's political structure, human rights record, and overall social and economic development until 2009.

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78. (D) Economic Liberalization
Economic liberalization refers to the process of reducing state intervention in the economy and allowing market forces to determine prices, production, and investment. This transition typically involves lowering trade barriers, removing industrial licensing, and encouraging private sector participation. It aims to increase efficiency, attract foreign capital, and foster innovation by integrating the national economy more fully into the competitive and dynamic global market system.

79. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
Regional agreements and forums serve diverse purposes. SAFTA is a preferential trade agreement among South Asian nations, while APEC focuses on sustainable growth in the Asia-Pacific. The ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) provides a platform for security dialogue. Finally, RCEP is a massive and comprehensive free trade agreement that integrates several major economies across the Asia-Pacific region into a single, cohesive trading bloc.

80. (B) Decolonization
Decolonization is the historical process through which former colonies gained independence and sovereign control over their own territories and governance. This movement accelerated after World War II, as imperial powers faced both internal pressure and rising nationalist movements in their overseas territories. While decolonization ended formal political control, it often left behind complex economic and social legacies that continue to influence post-colonial nation-building efforts today.

81. (B) Coup d'état
A coup d'état is a sudden and often violent overthrow of an existing government, typically carried out by elements of the military or other state elites. This illegal seizure of power bypasses democratic processes and constitutional norms. Coups are a significant challenge to political stability and democratization, particularly in states with weak civilian institutions or where the military maintains a dominant role in national affairs.

82. (B) I, II, and IV
Internal security in South Asia is frequently threatened by a combination of religious extremism, deep economic inequality, and poor governance. These factors can lead to social unrest, radicalization, and the rise of insurgent groups. In contrast, homogeneous demographics—where a population shares a single culture or language—generally reduce the likelihood of ethnic conflict, making it a stabilizing factor rather than an internal threat to the state.

83. (C) Economic and cultural influence used to control developing nations indirectly.
Neocolonialism describes a situation where former colonial powers or new global powers exert significant control over developing nations through economic dependencies and cultural dominance rather than direct military rule. This influence often manifests through debt, lopsided trade agreements, and the promotion of foreign values. It challenges the true sovereignty of post-colonial states, as their national policies are often shaped by the interests of external actors.

84. (D) The "ASEAN Way" emphasizes consensus and non-interference.
ASEAN's unique approach to regional cooperation, often called the "ASEAN Way," prioritizes the sovereignty of member states by avoiding interference in their internal affairs. Decisions are made through extensive consultation to reach a consensus, ensuring that all members are comfortable with regional initiatives. This diplomatic style has allowed a diverse group of nations to maintain a stable and peaceful regional environment without forming a formal military alliance.

85. (A) I, II, and III
The ASEAN Community is built upon three foundational pillars: the Political-Security Community, the Economic Community, and the Socio-Cultural Community. These pillars reflect the organization's comprehensive approach to regional integration, covering everything from regional stability and trade to shared cultural values and social development. By working across these three areas, ASEAN aims to create a more cohesive and resilient regional community for its member states.

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53. (A) I, II, and III
IORA, SAARC, and ASEAN are regional organizations focused on fostering economic cooperation, trade, and strategic partnerships within their respective geographic zones. They provide platforms for member states to address shared challenges and enhance regional connectivity. In contrast, NATO is a collective defense alliance focused on the North Atlantic region and does not share the primary trade-oriented mandate of these Asian organizations.

54. (B) Indian Ocean Rim Association
The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) is an international organization consisting of coastal states bordering the Indian Ocean. It aims to strengthen regional cooperation and sustainable development through its various priority areas, including maritime security, trade facilitation, and disaster risk management. IORA serves as a vital forum for promoting stability and economic growth across the diverse and strategically important Indian Ocean region.

55. (D) Regional economic integration
High tariffs on regional imports act as a significant barrier to the free flow of goods and services between neighboring states. While such policies might protect domestic industries in the short term, they undermine the broader goal of regional economic integration. Integration requires the reduction of trade barriers to create larger markets, encourage efficiency, and foster mutual economic dependence among participating regional nations.

56. (A) I, II, III, and IV
BIMSTEC focuses on promoting technical and economic cooperation among countries in the Bay of Bengal region. Its core sectors of collaboration include trade and investment, technology, energy, and tourism. By facilitating these links, BIMSTEC aims to bridge the gap between South and Southeast Asia. Unlike military blocs, its mandate does not traditionally include the formation of formal regional defense alliances.

57. (C) IORA - New Delhi
The secretariat of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) is actually located in Ebene, Mauritius, not New Delhi. Other regional organizations are correctly matched with their headquarters: SAARC is in Kathmandu, ASEAN is in Jakarta, and BIMSTEC is located in Dhaka. These secretariats play a crucial role in coordinating meetings and implementing the collaborative projects agreed upon by the member nations.

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58. (A) By facilitating tourism, culture, education, and transport connectivity.
The Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) is a regional initiative involving India and five Southeast Asian nations. It focuses on enhancing people-to-people ties through cooperation in tourism, culture, and education, while also improving physical transport links. By leveraging shared historical and cultural heritage, the MGC seeks to build a stronger foundation for modern economic and strategic partnerships across the two major river basins.

59. (A) I, II, IV, III
Regional organizations in Asia were established over several decades to address evolving needs. ASEAN was founded first in 1967, followed by SAARC in 1985. The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) was established in early 1997, and the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) was formed later that same year. This sequence reflects the growing complexity of regionalism.

60. (D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct
The ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) was established primarily as a platform for political and security dialogue, rather than just economic trade. It brings together members to discuss sensitive security issues, build confidence, and promote preventive diplomacy in the Indo-Pacific. While economic factors are always relevant, the ARF's unique value lies in its role as a premier forum for discussing regional strategic stability.

61. (C) Open regionalism based on non-binding voluntary commitments.
APEC follows the principle of "open regionalism," where trade liberalization measures are extended to both members and non-members. Unlike the European Union, APEC operates through

the country's institutional development and the challenges it has faced in stabilizing its democracy.

95. (A) I, III, and IV
The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) is dedicated to fostering regional cooperation through sustainable development and balanced growth. Its key objectives include enhancing maritime safety and security, as well as facilitating trade and investment among member states. Unlike some other groupings, IORA does not have a mandate to establish a formal military command structure, focusing instead on economic and non-traditional security cooperation across the ocean.

96. (B) Sustainable use of ocean resources for growth and improved livelihoods.
The Blue Economy concept promotes the sustainable development of marine resources to boost economic growth while ensuring the health of ocean ecosystems. In the Indo-Pacific, this includes activities like sustainable fishing, renewable ocean energy, and eco-friendly maritime transport. By balancing economic needs with environmental conservation, the Blue Economy aims to provide long-term benefits for coastal communities and contribute to regional food and energy security.

97. (B) One state's naval modernization provoking regional arms competition.
In the Indo-Pacific, the security dilemma is clearly seen when one nation's efforts to modernize its navy for defensive reasons are interpreted as aggressive by its neighbors. This leads other states to increase their own naval spending, resulting in a regional arms race. Even if no state intends to start a conflict, the resulting atmosphere of suspicion and increased military capability makes the region more volatile and prone to escalation.

98. (A) II, I, III, IV
South Asian and neighboring nations gained independence in a specific historical order. India achieved freedom in 1947, followed by Myanmar in early 1948. The Maldives became independent from British protection in 1965. Finally, Bangladesh emerged as a sovereign nation in 1971 after a war of liberation. This chronology reflects the waves of decolonization and political restructuring that have shaped the modern map of the region.

99. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The shift from "Asia-Pacific" to "Indo-Pacific" reflects a more holistic understanding of the region's strategic and economic unity. This newer construct acknowledges that the Indian and Pacific Oceans are deeply interconnected by trade and security challenges. It also recognizes India's emerging role as a major regional power and the importance of its partnership in maintaining a stable and open maritime order against rising hegemonies.

100. (D) Transnational pandemics
External threats to human security are those that originate outside a nation's borders but directly impact the lives and well-being of its citizens. Transnational pandemics, like COVID-19, are classic examples, as they spread rapidly across borders and overwhelm national health systems. In contrast, issues like domestic poverty, corruption, and local ethnic violence are primarily internal challenges that fall under the responsibility of the individual state's governance.

101. (C) Cyber warfare
Cyber warfare involves the use of digital attacks by one nation-state to damage or disrupt the information systems and critical infrastructure of another. This modern form of conflict can target power grids, financial systems, and communication networks without the need for physical troop movements. As nations become more technologically dependent, the threat of cyber warfare has become a major concern for both national security and the protection of essential services.

102. (B) Britain - Indirect rule and economic extraction
The British colonial model frequently employed "indirect rule," where they governed through local traditional leaders while maintaining overall political and military control. This allowed for efficient administrative oversight and the focused extraction of economic resources to benefit the imperial center. This strategy left a lasting impact on the institutional frameworks

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economic cooperation around the Bay of Bengal, APEC targets economic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific, and the ARF is the primary security dialogue forum for the ASEAN region and its broader strategic partners.

167. (A) I, II, III, and V
The Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) was established to enhance people-to-people ties and economic links between India and Southeast Asia. Its foundational pillars of cooperation include tourism, culture, education, and transport and communication. By focusing on these non-military areas, the MGC aims to build a more stable and integrated regional community based on shared historical and cultural heritage. Unlike some other organizations, it does not have a formal pillar for joint defense or military cooperation.

168. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The 1991 economic reforms transformed India from a relatively closed economy to one of the world's fastest-growing markets. This sustained economic growth provided the financial resources needed to modernize India's military and expand its diplomatic and strategic reach across the Indo-Pacific. As a result, India has transitioned from a primarily regional actor to a significant player in the global geopolitical arena, with a much larger and more active strategic footprint.

169. (C) India and Nepal
The Kalapani territory is a strategically important area located at the tri-junction of India, Nepal, and China. Both India and Nepal claim the territory based on different interpretations of the 1816 Treaty of Sugauli. The dispute was rekindled recently when both countries issued updated official maps that included the area. This issue highlights how historical border agreements can still create significant diplomatic friction between long-standing regional partners and neighbors today.

170. (A) I, IV, II, III
The history of globalization is marked by several key developments: the Bretton Woods institutions (IMF and World Bank) were created in 1944. China's transformative economic reforms under Deng Xiaoping began in late 1978. The World Trade Organization was established in 1995 to replace GATT. Finally, the 2008 Global Financial Crisis showed the deep interconnections and vulnerabilities of the modern integrated global economy. This timeline reflects the accelerating pace of global economic integration.

171. (D) Narrow strategic strait through which maritime traffic must pass.
In geostrategy, a chokepoint is a narrow maritime passage that is essential for international shipping. Because these waterways are so narrow, they can be easily blocked or controlled, which would have a massive impact on global trade and energy security. Prominent examples include the Strait of Malacca and the Strait of Hormuz. Control or protection of these chokepoints is a central concern for naval powers and for the stability of the global economy.

172. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
State-building, which involves creating functional institutions and a monopoly on force, is often seen as a prerequisite for the more complex task of nation-building. However, linguistic diversity does not always prevent successful nation-building. Many states, like India, have successfully forged a national identity while accommodating multiple languages. The challenge lies in creating inclusive political and cultural structures that allow diverse groups to feel a sense of belonging to the larger national community.

173. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Each component of LPG reforms has a specific economic goal. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) brings in necessary capital and advanced technology. Disinvestment involves the state selling its shares in public companies to reduce its role in the economy. Deregulation eases government rules to encourage private sector efficiency. Finally, tariff reduction is a key part of liberalization, lowering the barriers to international trade and encouraging the flow of goods across national borders.

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174. (D) Use of binding legal enforcement mechanisms.
ASEAN is well known for avoiding the use of binding legal enforcement mechanisms, which

2014. Finally, the SAGAR vision for maritime security was introduced in 2015. This progression reflects India's transition from global neutrality to proactive regional leadership.

111. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Despite a 2016 ruling by the Permanent Court of Arbitration that its "Nine-Dash Line" claims have no legal basis, China has continued to expand its presence in the South China Sea. China's rejection of the court's jurisdiction prevents the resolution of overlapping maritime claims with neighboring states. This defiance of international legal frameworks remains a primary source of tension and a challenge to the rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific.

112. (B) Reforms mandated by global institutions to enforce fiscal and market discipline.
Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs) were often required by the IMF and World Bank for countries seeking financial assistance during economic crises. These programs mandated significant reforms, including cutting government spending, privatizing state-owned enterprises, and liberalizing trade. While intended to stabilize economies and promote long-term growth, they often faced criticism for their harsh impact on social welfare and their perceived interference in national sovereignty and domestic economic policy.

113. (B) Maintaining independence from major power blocs during the Cold War era.
The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) was founded by states that did not want to be forced into an alliance with either the United States or the Soviet Union. By maintaining strategic autonomy, these nations sought to focus on their own domestic development and avoid being drawn into superpower conflicts. NAM allowed post-colonial states to have a collective voice in international affairs and promote global peace and decolonization.

114. (A) IORA - Promoting sustainable growth in the Indian Ocean region.
The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) is correctly identified with its core mission of fostering regional cooperation and sustainable development among coastal states. Other pairings are incorrect: APEC focuses on economic cooperation, not military defense; SAARC aims for broad regional cooperation rather than a common currency; and BIMSTEC targets technical and economic sectors around the Bay of Bengal rather than advanced space exploration programs.

115. (C) Internal consolidation and systematic nation-building.
Land reform and linguistic reorganization are key strategies used by new states to consolidate their authority and create a more unified national identity. Land reform addresses historical economic grievances, while linguistic reorganization acknowledges and accommodates cultural diversity within the state structure. By addressing these foundational issues, governments aim to reduce internal friction, enhance their legitimacy, and build a more stable and cohesive nation post-independence.

116. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
APEC is a diverse forum that includes major economies from both the Asian and American sides of the Pacific Ocean, reflecting the interconnectedness of the global economy. However, India is not a member of APEC, although it has sought membership for several years. Furthermore, APEC operates through non-binding, voluntary commitments based on consensus, rather than through legally binding international treaties or enforcement mechanisms.

117. (A) I, III, and IV
Non-traditional security threats are those that originate from non-military sources but pose a significant danger to human life and national stability. Climate change-induced migration, water scarcity, and cyber espionage are prominent examples of such challenges in South Asia. In contrast, conventional tank battles are classic examples of traditional military threats, which focus on state-on-state warfare and the protection of territorial borders through armed force.

118. (B) It has eliminated all cultural differences.
While globalization facilitates cultural exchange and the spread of global trends, it has not eliminated cultural differences. Instead, it often

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and socio-economic structures of many post-colonial states, particularly across the South Asian subcontinent.

103. (D) Guaranteed elimination of corporate monopolies
While privatization aims to increase efficiency and reduce the government's fiscal burden by encouraging private investment, it does not automatically eliminate monopolies. In some cases, a public monopoly may simply be replaced by a private one, which can lead to higher prices and reduced access for the public. Effective regulation remains essential to ensure that privatization actually fosters competition and benefits consumers rather than just shifting ownership to powerful corporate interests.

104. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
South Asian disputes are categorized by their fundamental nature and the parties involved. The Kashmir dispute is a central territorial sovereignty issue between India and Pakistan. Sir Creek is a maritime boundary disagreement, while the Teesta River dispute concerns the sharing of transboundary water. Finally, Tamil separatism in Sri Lanka represents a significant internal ethnic conflict that had profound regional and international repercussions over several decades.

105. (C) Unify diverse groups under a singular and shared state identity.
In the post-colonial phase, nationalism serves as a powerful tool to overcome the internal divisions left by colonial rule. By promoting a shared national identity and a sense of collective purpose, it helps to integrate diverse ethnic, religious, and linguistic groups into a cohesive state. This unity is essential for the stability and legitimacy of new governments as they work to build functioning institutions and pursue national development.

106. (D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct
SAARC was officially established in 1985 in Dhaka to promote regional cooperation. However, its charter explicitly excludes the discussion of bilateral and contentious political issues from its formal agenda to avoid regional paralysis. This limitation was intended to ensure that cooperation in economic and social fields could proceed regardless of political tensions, although in practice, bilateral rivalries have still frequently stalled the organization's progress and integration efforts.

107. (A) I, II, and III
The "Golden Triangle" is a major region for illicit opium production and drug trafficking, located where the borders of Myanmar, Laos, and Thailand meet. The activities in this area fuel transnational organized crime and contribute to security challenges across the Indo-Pacific. The drug trade from this region often funds insurgencies and undermines the rule of law, making it a significant non-traditional security threat for neighboring nations including India and Bangladesh.

108. (B) United States
An "extra-regional power" is a state that exerts significant influence and maintains a major presence in a region where it is not geographically located. In the Indo-Pacific, the United States is the preeminent extra-regional power, with extensive military bases, deep economic ties, and major security alliances. Its involvement is a key factor in the regional balance of power and the maintenance of a rules-based maritime order.

109. (C) Presence of deeply entrenched military interference in politics.
Successful democratization requires the subordination of the military to elected civilian authority. When the military becomes a dominant political actor, it often undermines democratic institutions, suppresses dissent, and interrupts constitutional processes through coups or behind-the-scenes influence. This persistent interference is one of the most significant obstacles to establishing stable and accountable democratic governance in several post-colonial states, as seen in parts of South and Southeast Asia.

110. (A) IV, I, II, III
India's foreign policy initiatives have evolved over several decades. The Non-Aligned Movement was a founding principle in the mid-twentieth century. The "Look East Policy" was launched in 1991 to re-engage with Southeast Asia, which was later upgraded to the "Act East Policy" in

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aim to safeguard local businesses, they can also lead to inefficiencies and limit a nation's ability to benefit from global technological transfers and market integration.

127. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
The Indian National Congress was indeed founded in 1885 and became the primary vehicle for the nationalist movement. However, the Muslim League was formed in 1906 specifically to protect and advance the political interests of Muslims in India, rather than to advocate for secularism. This ideological divergence between the two organizations eventually led to the demand for separate states and the subsequent Partition of the subcontinent in 1947.

128. (B) A state that has lost its monopoly on the legitimate use of physical force.
A "failed state" is one where the central government can no longer maintain basic law and order or provide essential services to its citizens. The loss of a monopoly on the legitimate use of force often means that warlords, insurgent groups, or criminal organizations control parts of the territory. This collapse of authority leads to widespread instability, humanitarian crises, and can pose a significant security threat to neighboring regions.

129. (B) China - Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)
The Belt and Road Initiative is China's massive global infrastructure project aimed at enhancing trade routes and economic influence across Eurasia and the Indo-Pacific. Other strategic pairings mentioned are incorrect: the "String of Pearls" is associated with China, not the USA; the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" is a concept led by Japan and the USA; and the "Greater Eurasian Partnership" is a Russian initiative.

130. (A) Threat of inundation due to rising sea levels.
As a low-lying archipelago, the Maldives faces an existential threat from climate change and rising sea levels. With most of its islands only a few meters above sea level, much of its territory could become uninhabitable by the end of the century. This environmental challenge is a primary human security concern, as it threatens the nation's physical survival and necessitates long-term planning for adaptation and potential population displacement.

131. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
Regional organizations vary in size based on their geographic scope and membership criteria. SAARC has 8 members in South Asia, while ASEAN consists of 10 Southeast Asian nations. BIMSTEC brings together 7 countries from around the Bay of Bengal. IORA is the largest of these, with 23 member states bordering the Indian Ocean, reflecting its broad role in promoting regional cooperation across a vast maritime theater.

132. (D) Establishing a unified currency
The ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) is designed to promote security dialogue and build trust among its diverse members in the Indo-Pacific. Its activities focus on confidence-building measures, preventive diplomacy, and conflict resolution. However, the ARF is not an economic union and has no mandate or goal to establish a unified currency. Its primary value remains its role as a diplomatic venue for addressing complex regional security challenges.

133. (C) Use of geoeconomics and maritime strategy.
Geoeconomics involves the use of economic instruments, like infrastructure investment and trade policy, to achieve strategic and geopolitical goals. In the Indo-Pacific, developing commercial ports along key maritime routes allows nations to secure their energy supplies and project influence. This maritime strategy integrates economic and security interests, ensuring that a state has both the commercial access and the strategic presence needed to protect its national interests in vital sea lanes.

134. (A) I, II, and IV
Nepal's recent history is marked by a decade-long Maoist insurgency that ended with a peace agreement and the abolition of the monarchy in 2008. The country then transitioned into a secular republic and eventually adopted a new federal constitution in 2015. While the transition has been politically complex and sometimes unstable, Nepal is currently a federal democratic republic and is not under a military dictatorship, despite the military's historical role.

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and often the adoption of a common regional currency.

151. (D) It involves cooperation on broad issues without a formal alliance treaty.
Strategic partnerships are flexible and multifaceted cooperative frameworks that allow nations to work together on shared interests like trade, security, and technology. Unlike formal military alliances, they do not require a binding mutual defense commitment or a single unified currency. This allows states to deepen their engagement and coordinate their policies in a complex international environment while still maintaining their strategic autonomy and flexibility in their foreign relations.

152. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
Most major powers, including the United States, Japan, and India, explicitly emphasize "ASEAN centrality" in their Indo-Pacific strategies, recognizing the organization's role in the regional architecture. However, the Quad has consistently denied being an "Asian NATO," as it is not a formal military alliance with mutual defense treaties. Instead, it is a strategic dialogue focused on promoting a free and open region through cooperation on various non-military challenges and common goals.

153. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Major powers have distinct regional initiatives: China leads the Belt and Road Initiative, while the United States published the 2019 Indo-Pacific Strategy Report. Japan, India, and Australia launched the Supply Chain Resilience Initiative to reduce economic dependencies. Russia, meanwhile, focuses on its "Far East Development" to enhance its presence in the Pacific. These diverse strategies reflect the competing visions for the future of economic and strategic connectivity in the Indo-Pacific.

154. (A) Presence of deeply entrenched caste and ethnic divisions.
South Asian democracies often struggle with internal societal cleavages, such as caste hierarchies and ethnic rivalries, which can be manipulated by political actors. These divisions can lead to fragmented electoral outcomes, the marginalization of minority groups, and social unrest. Overcoming these deep-seated identities to foster a more inclusive and stable democratic system is a persistent challenge for nation-builders and political leaders across the diverse nations of the subcontinent.

155. (D) Align with the rising hegemon to seek security or economic benefits.
Bandwagoning is a strategic choice where a smaller state aligns itself with a more powerful, rising nation rather than trying to balance against it. The state may do this to share in the spoils of the hegemon's success or to avoid becoming a target of its power. This approach can provide immediate economic benefits and security guarantees but often comes at the cost of the smaller state's strategic autonomy and independent foreign policy.

156. (B) It focuses on the state as the primary referent object of security.
This statement is incorrect because human security fundamentally shifts the focus from the state to the individual. Traditional security is what prioritizes the state and its territorial integrity. Human security, instead, recognizes that people can be threatened by non-military issues like poverty, disease, and environmental disasters even if the state is militarily strong. Its goal is to ensure "freedom from want" and "freedom from fear" for every person.

157. (A) I, II, III, and V
Colonialism in South Asia left a complex legacy, including the introduction of modern bureaucratic and legal systems. However, it also led to the systematic deindustrialization of local economies and the creation of arbitrary borders that still cause conflict. While it produced an English-educated elite who often led independence movements, it did not lead to the complete eradication of traditional religions, which remained central to the cultural and political identities of the region's people.

158. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalization has integrated national economies into a global system governed by international organizations like the WTO and IMF. When states join these bodies, they agree to follow certain rules regarding trade and fiscal policy,

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143. (A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
Regional concepts in South Asia are linked to specific geographic and social realities. Naxalism is a major internal insurgency in parts of India. Piracy is a critical concern for maritime security in the Indian Ocean and Malacca Strait. Sir Creek is the site of a long-standing maritime border dispute between India and Pakistan. Finally, the "demographic dividend" refers to the economic potential of the region's large and growing youth population.

144. (B) BIMSTEC
BIMSTEC was specifically conceived to foster a community among countries bordering the Bay of Bengal, effectively linking the economies and strategic interests of South and Southeast Asia. By focusing on technical and economic cooperation, it provides a platform for its seven member states to enhance regional connectivity and address shared challenges. It has gained importance as a more functional alternative to other regional organizations that have been hampered by bilateral political tensions.

145. (B) Interaction between economic globalization and human security.
The scenario describes a common tension where the pursuit of economic growth through globalization can sometimes undermine aspects of human security, such as environmental health and fair labor practices. While LPG reforms can attract necessary investment and boost national GDP, they may also lead to the exploitation of resources and workers if not properly regulated. This highlights the need for balanced policies that prioritize both economic development and the long-term well-being of the population.

146. (A) India - Transition from monarchy to republic
Unlike Nepal, which recently transitioned from a monarchy to a republic, India has been a republic since its constitution came into effect in 1950. The other pairings correctly reflect regional challenges: Sri Lanka has faced power consolidation and ethnic conflict, Pakistan struggles with civil-military imbalances, and Myanmar has experienced significant democratic backsliding under military rule. These diverse trajectories illustrate the varied political hurdles faced by nations across the South Asian and neighboring regions.

147. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
During the Cold War, both the United States and the Soviet Union viewed South Asia as a strategically important region for expanding their influence. They provided significant military aid and economic support to different nations, which often influenced domestic political alignments and foreign policy choices. This external pressure frequently exacerbated local tensions and shaped the regional balance of power, leaving a lasting impact on the post-independence development of these states.

148. (D) Making non-reciprocal accommodations to smaller regional neighbors.
The Gujral Doctrine, formulated in the late 1990s, was a significant shift in India's foreign policy toward its smaller neighbors. It emphasized that as the largest regional power, India should offer unilateral concessions and accommodations to build trust and foster regional cooperation. This approach aimed to create a more peaceful and stable South Asian neighborhood by prioritizing diplomatic goodwill and non-reciprocal support over traditional power politics and strict reciprocity.

149. (A) I, II, and IV
Privatization in the context of LPG reforms involves reducing the state's direct role in the economy by selling off government equity in public enterprises. This process is intended to introduce more corporate competition and improve the operational efficiency of formerly state-run industries. While it significantly reduces state monopolies, it does not involve the total elimination of market regulation, as the government still needs to ensure fair competition and protect consumer interests within the private sector.

150. (A) II, I, IV, III
Economic integration typically follows a sequence of increasing depth: it begins with a Free Trade Area to reduce internal tariffs, followed by a Customs Union that adds a common external tariff. A Common Market then allows for the free movement of labor and capital. The most integrated form is an Economic Union, which involves the coordination of economic policies

triggers a "global-local" dynamic where local cultures adapt or resist external influences. In some cases, globalization leads to a resurgence of traditional identities as people seek to preserve their unique heritage in the face of perceived homogenization. Other impacts, like increased FDI and technology transfer, are accurately associated with globalization.

119. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Political instability and transitions in the region are linked to specific historical events. Myanmar experienced a transformative military coup by Ne Win in 1962. The Kargil conflict in 1999 was a major flashpoint between India and Pakistan. Nepal officially transitioned from a monarchy to a republic in 2008. Most recently, in 2022, Sri Lanka faced a severe economic crisis that led to massive protests and the ouster of its top leadership.

120. (A) 12 nautical miles
Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), a state's territorial waters extend up to 12 nautical miles from its coastal baseline. Within this zone, the coastal state has full sovereignty over the sea, the seabed, and the airspace above. While foreign vessels have the right of "innocent passage," they must follow the laws and regulations of the coastal state while transiting these waters.

121. (C) Exploration and use of marine resources up to 200 nautical miles.
The Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) provides a coastal state with sovereign rights to explore, exploit, and manage both living and non-living resources in the water and on the seabed up to 200 nautical miles from its coast. This includes fishing, mining, and energy production. While the state controls these resources, the EEZ remains part of international waters for the purposes of navigation and overflight by other nations.

122. (A) I, II, III, and V
SAARC's progress is hindered by several structural and political factors, including the dominant India-Pakistan rivalry and poor physical connectivity between members. Additionally, because many member states have similar export profiles, there is less incentive for intra-regional trade. Political instability within individual nations further complicates long-term regional planning. Interestingly, the presence of common security threats, like terrorism, could actually serve as a potential area for cooperation if bilateral tensions were lower.

123. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
India has increasingly prioritized BIMSTEC because it allows for regional cooperation among Bay of Bengal nations without being stalled by its disputes with Pakistan. BIMSTEC bridges South and Southeast Asia, offering more dynamic economic opportunities and strategic alignment. This shift reflects a pragmatic approach to regionalism, where India seeks more effective platforms to advance its neighborhood-first policy and enhance regional connectivity and security.

124. (B) Security and Growth for All in the Region
SAGAR is India's strategic vision for the Indian Ocean, introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It emphasizes cooperative maritime security, sustainable economic development, and disaster response. By promoting a collaborative approach, SAGAR aims to build trust among regional partners and ensure that the Indian Ocean remains a safe and prosperous zone for all. This vision is a cornerstone of India's broader Indo-Pacific strategy.

125. (A) II, I, IV, III
South Asian political leadership followed a chronological sequence linked to the region's modern history. Jawaharlal Nehru was India's first Prime Minister starting in 1947. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman led Bangladesh to independence and into the early 1970s. Zia-ul-Haq came to power in Pakistan via a 1977 coup. Mahinda Rajapaksa's first term as President of Sri Lanka began much later, in 2005, illustrating the different eras of regional leadership.

126. (D) Liberalisation and Globalisation
Liberalization and globalization advocate for the reduction of trade barriers and the opening of domestic markets to international competition and investment. Policies that restrict foreign investment or protect domestic industries through high tariffs are the opposite of these principles. While such protectionist measures

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which can limit their ability to act unilaterally. This erosion of absolute economic sovereignty is the trade-off for accessing global markets and financial stability, as nations must harmonize their domestic laws with international standards.

159. (A) Japan and China
The Senkaku Islands (known as Diaoyu in China) are uninhabited islands in the East China Sea that are currently administered by Japan but claimed by China. The dispute is fueled by historical claims, strategic maritime location, and potential undersea oil and gas reserves. This ongoing friction regularly leads to diplomatic standoffs and naval patrols by both countries, making it a major flashpoint in East Asian and Indo-Pacific regional security.

160. (A) I, II, III, IV
The strategic landscape of the Indo-Pacific has been shaped by a series of significant events: the US "Pivot to Asia" was announced in 2011, followed by the launch of China's Belt and Road Initiative in 2013. The Quad held its first ministerial-level meeting in 2019, marking a deepening of the partnership. Finally, the AUKUS security pact was formed in 2021. This timeline reflects the intensifying strategic competition and shifting alliances in the region.

161. (B) Collaborative efforts aimed at improving well-being in developing nations.
Development cooperation involves partnerships between countries, or with international organizations, to provide aid, technical assistance, and financial support for projects like infrastructure, health, and education. Unlike colonial exploitation, it is ideally based on mutual benefit and the goal of long-term sustainable growth. In the Indo-Pacific, this cooperation is a key tool for building influence and fostering regional stability by addressing the socio-economic roots of insecurity and underdevelopment.

162. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
Regional integration in South Asia is complicated by the fact that India is significantly larger than its neighbors in terms of population, economy, and military power. This asymmetry often creates suspicion and hampers collective decision-making. Far from being the most integrated region, South Asia is actually one of the least economically integrated areas in the world, with low levels of intra-regional trade compared to regions like Southeast Asia or Europe.

163. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Internal security threats are often driven by specific socio-economic and political factors. Naxalism is primarily fueled by marginalization and inequality. Religious extremism is driven by ideological and theological radicalization. Ethnic separatism often arises from the perceived suppression of cultural and linguistic identities. Meanwhile, challenges like resource scarcity, often exacerbated by climate change and population growth, create new forms of instability that can lead to localized conflicts and displacement.

164. (D) Key maritime chokepoints facilitate the transport of oil to Asian markets.
The Indo-Pacific region is a vital hub for global energy security because it contains some of the world's most important maritime chokepoints, such as the Straits of Malacca and Hormuz. Most of the oil and gas produced in the Middle East must pass through these narrow waterways to reach the energy-hungry economies of East and South Asia. Ensuring the safety and freedom of navigation in these waters is therefore a top priority for all global powers.

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165. (C) Nation-building
When ethnic minorities face systemic discrimination, it indicates a failure of nation-building, which is the process of creating a shared sense of identity and belonging among all citizens. If groups feel marginalized or excluded from the state's political and social life, they may turn to radicalization or secessionist movements. Successful nation-building requires inclusive governance that respects diversity and ensures that all communities have a stake in the country's future and stability.

166. (B) IORA - Indian Ocean Regional Alliance
This statement is incorrect because the official name of the organization is the Indian Ocean Rim Association, not Alliance. The other pairings correctly identify regional forums and their full names: BIMSTEC focuses on technical and

135. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Human security recognizes that the most common threats to people's lives are often non-military, such as extreme poverty, lack of healthcare, and environmental degradation. By focusing on the individual's "freedom from want" and "freedom from fear," this concept provides a more realistic framework for addressing the vulnerabilities of modern populations. Defending borders is important, but true security is only achieved when the people within those borders can live with dignity.

136. (A) Shift from economic ties to encompassing strategic and security cooperation.
The evolution from "Look East" to "Act East" represents a significant deepening of India's engagement with the Indo-Pacific. While the original policy focused primarily on building economic links with Southeast Asia, the upgraded policy is more proactive and multifaceted. It emphasizes maritime security, infrastructure connectivity, and defense partnerships, reflecting India's intent to play a more assertive and comprehensive role in the region's strategic architecture and economic future.

137. (C) It is devoid of major military rivalries.
The Indo-Pacific is far from being devoid of military rivalries; in fact, it is home to some of the most intense strategic competitions in the world. This includes the rivalry between the United States and China, as well as several long-standing regional disputes. The region's geostrategic importance, driven by its large population and central role in global supply chains, only heightens these tensions as powers compete for influence and maritime control.

138. (A) Pakistan and Afghanistan
The Durand Line was established in 1893 as the border between British India and Afghanistan. Today, it serves as the international boundary between Pakistan and Afghanistan, though it remains a source of tension. The Afghan government and many local groups have historically contested the line's legitimacy, leading to ongoing cross-border friction and security challenges. This dispute illustrates the lingering impact of colonial-era demarcations on contemporary regional stability.

139. (A) I, II, III, and V
Successful state-building requires several core capacities, including the ability to extract resources through taxation to fund public services. A state must also maintain a monopoly on the legitimate use of violence and establish rule of law through functioning institutions. These elements provide the stability and legitimacy needed for effective governance. In contrast, eliminating external trade would isolate the state and weaken its economic foundation, making successful state-building far more difficult.

140. (A) II, III, I, IV
Key agreements between India and its neighbors followed a historical sequence: the Indus Water Treaty was signed in 1960, followed by the Tashkent Declaration after the 1965 war. The Shimla Agreement was reached in 1972 following the 1971 conflict. Much later, the Lahore Declaration was signed in 1999 to promote peace and nuclear restraint. This timeline shows the repeated attempts to resolve disputes through formal diplomatic treaties over several decades.

141. (C) Aligning with others to counter a rising and potentially threatening power.
In international relations, "balancing" is a core concept where states form alliances or increase their own military capabilities to prevent a single power from achieving hegemony. By creating a counterweight, they aim to preserve their sovereignty and maintain a stable power equilibrium. Balancing can be internal, through national military build-ups, or external, through the formation of strategic partnerships and alliances with other nations that share similar security concerns.

142. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
Liberalization in India successfully reduced the "License Raj," which was a complex system of government regulations and permits that stifled business growth. However, privatization efforts have not completely eliminated the public sector. In most South Asian states, the government still maintains a significant role in key industries like energy, banking, and infrastructure. The goal of reform was to create a more balanced and competitive economy rather than total state withdrawal.

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distinguishes it from organizations like the European Union. Instead, the "ASEAN Way" relies on consensus-building, quiet diplomacy, and a strict commitment to non-interference in the internal affairs of its member states. This flexible approach allows a diverse group of countries to maintain regional stability and cooperation while protecting their national sovereignty and avoiding the escalation of internal or bilateral disputes.

175. (A) Maximize benefits while minimizing risks of over-dependence.
Hedging is a strategic choice used by smaller nations to navigate the rivalry between major powers like the US and China. By accepting economic investment from one while maintaining security ties with the other, a state avoids becoming overly dependent on either power. This approach allows the nation to protect its sovereignty and pursue its own national interests while benefiting from the economic and security offerings of both competing superpowers in a balanced and risk-averse manner.

176. (B) South Asia faces no significant urbanization challenges.
This statement is incorrect because South Asia is actually experiencing some of the world's most rapid and challenging urbanization. Millions of people are moving from rural areas to cities, putting immense pressure on infrastructure, housing, and public services. This trend often leads to the growth of slums and increased social and economic inequality. If not properly managed, these urbanization challenges can contribute to internal instability and threaten human security across the region's rapidly growing metropolitan centers.

177. (A) I, II, III, and V
Extra-regional actors in the Indo-Pacific include major powers like the United States, France, and the United Kingdom, all of which maintain a significant naval presence and strategic interests in the region. The European Union also plays an important role through its economic and diplomatic initiatives. In contrast, Bolivia is a landlocked South American nation with no significant strategic or economic presence in the Indo-Pacific, and thus is not considered a key extra-regional actor in this context.

178. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Climate change poses a direct threat to human security in the Indo-Pacific, especially for low-lying nations like the Maldives and coastal areas in Bangladesh and Vietnam. Rising sea levels can lead to the permanent loss of land, the contamination of freshwater supplies, and the displacement of millions of people. These environmental changes create a cascade of challenges, including food insecurity and social unrest, making climate change a critical factor in regional and national security planning.

179. (C) Liberalization measures extended to non-members on an MFN basis.
Open regionalism is a unique approach where a group of countries lowers trade barriers among themselves while also extending those same benefits to non-member states. This principle, championing by APEC, aims to promote global trade liberalization rather than creating an exclusive and protectionist trade bloc. By adhering to the Most Favored Nation principle, APEC members ensure that their regional integration efforts contribute to a more open and integrated global economy for all participating and non-participating nations.

180. (A) IV, II, I, III
South Asia's internal conflicts have deep historical roots: the first phase of the Balochistan insurgency began shortly after Pakistan's independence. The Naxalite movement in India erupted in the late 1960s. The LTTE-led insurgency in Sri Lanka escalated significantly in the early 1980s. Finally, the Maoist insurgency in Nepal began in 1996. This sequence reflects the varied timelines of internal instability and the different drivers of conflict, ranging from ethnic separatism to ideological revolution.

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181. (C) Analysis of geographic influences on international power relationships.
Geopolitics is the study of how physical geography—such as location, resources, and terrain—affects a nation's foreign policy and its power relative to other states. It provides a framework for understanding why certain regions, like maritime chokepoints or fertile river basins, become focal points of international competition. By analyzing these geographic

241. (B) Survival challenges arising from non-military sources.
Non-traditional security refers to challenges that threaten the survival and well-being of people and states but do not originate from conventional military aggression. These include threats like climate change, infectious diseases, food and water scarcity, and transnational organized crime. Addressing these complex and interconnected issues requires a broader approach than traditional military defense, emphasizing international cooperation, economic development, and environmental protection to ensure the long-term security and resilience of societies in a rapidly changing global environment.

242. (A) Both Statement I and II are correct
APEC and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) are two major regional organizations that address different aspects of Indo-Pacific cooperation. APEC is the premier forum for discussing economic growth, trade liberalization, and technical cooperation among its member economies. In contrast, the ARF is the primary platform for high-level security dialogue, where members can discuss sensitive strategic issues, build trust, and promote preventive diplomacy to maintain regional stability and prevent the escalation of conflicts across the diverse and complex Indo-Pacific region.

243. (A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
South Asian and neighboring regional issues are tied to specific geographical locations and political relationships. The Teesta River dispute involves the sharing of water between India and Bangladesh. The South China Sea disputes involve overlapping maritime claims by China and several ASEAN states. The Chakma refugee issue is a long-standing challenge between Bangladesh and India. Finally, the Madhesi protests are a significant internal political issue in Nepal that also has cross-border implications for its relationship with India.

244. (D) Eradication of the informal labor sector
While globalization has brought many benefits to South Asian economies, it has not led to the eradication of the informal labor sector. In fact, many of the new jobs created in industries like manufacturing and services are informal and lack legal protections or benefits. This sector continues to provide a livelihood for a huge portion of the region's population, but it also leaves workers vulnerable to exploitation and economic shocks. Addressing this precariousness remains a major human security challenge for the region's governments.

245. (C) It reduces force utility due to potential mutual economic damage.
Under the theory of "complex interdependence," as national economies become more integrated through trade and investment, the use of military force becomes more costly and less effective for achieving national goals. If two states are deeply economically linked, a war between them would cause massive damage to both economies, creating a strong incentive for peaceful dispute resolution. This economic interdependence acts as a stabilizing force, making large-scale conflict less likely and encouraging states to cooperate through international institutions and diplomatic channels.

246. (A) I, II, and III
The "Indo-Pacific" concept provides a broad strategic framework that bridges the Indian and Pacific Oceans, acknowledging their strategic and economic unity. By including more regional actors like India and Australia, it helps to balance the regional architecture and promotes a multipolar order where no single power, like China, can dominate. The concept emphasizes the importance of a free and open maritime order and does not advocate for the closure of strategic international straits, which are essential for global trade and security.

247. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Democratization in South Asia has been a staggered and often difficult process, with many countries experiencing periods of both democratic governance and military or authoritarian rule. This oscillation is often driven by weak civilian institutions, deep-seated social divisions, and a politically active military. While some nations have maintained stable democracies, others continue to struggle with democratic backsliding or the challenge of establishing accountable and representative governments that can survive the

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189. (C) SAGAR - India
SAGAR, which stands for Security and Growth for All in the Region, is India's foundational maritime security vision for the Indian Ocean. Other pairings are incorrect: the Belt and Road Initiative is a Chinese project, the Asia-Africa Growth Corridor is a joint project by India and Japan to provide an alternative to the BRI, and the Quad is a strategic dialogue between India, Japan, Australia, and the USA that notably excludes China and Russia from its core membership.

190. (A) I, III, II, IV
Key regional dialogue forums emerged in response to shifting security needs: the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) was founded in 1994. The Shangri-La Dialogue, a major defense summit, held its first meeting in 2002. The East Asia Summit (EAS) was established in 2005 to foster broad regional cooperation. Finally, the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) was launched in 2008. This timeline reflects the increasing complexity and institutionalization of regional security and diplomatic engagement over several decades.

191. (A) Traditional security protects states; human security protects individuals.
Traditional security focuses on the state as the main object of protection, emphasizing territorial integrity and defense against foreign military aggression. In contrast, human security prioritizes the well-being and safety of the individual. It addresses a much broader range of threats, including extreme poverty, infectious diseases, and environmental degradation. By shifting the focus to the person, human security provides a more comprehensive understanding of the vulnerabilities faced by people in the modern world.

192. (A) Both Statement I and II are correct
India has maintained a robust and stable parliamentary democracy since gaining independence in 1947, with only a single eighteen-month interruption during the Emergency in the mid-1970s. In stark contrast, Myanmar's political history has been dominated by long periods of military rule and periodic, often unsuccessful, attempts at democratic transition. These two countries illustrate the very different political paths that can be taken by post-colonial states in the South Asian and Southeast Asian regions.

193. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
Different political and economic terms describe specific historical and policy processes. Decolonization is the reversing of colonial rule. Democratization is the transition toward a more democratic and accountable political system. Privatization involves transferring business ownership from the public to the private sector to improve efficiency. Liberalization refers to the relaxation of government regulations and trade barriers to allow for a more open and market-driven national economy integrated into the global system.

194. (A) Cross-border incursions at the Line of Actual Control (LAC).
Cross-border incursions by foreign military forces at the Line of Actual Control are a direct external threat to India's territorial integrity and state security. Such incidents can lead to military standoffs and a breakdown in diplomatic relations. In contrast, issues like internal insurgencies, interstate river water disputes, and political demands for new states are primarily internal challenges that fall under the state's domestic governance and legal frameworks rather than being direct external military threats.

195. (C) Weak civilian institutions coupled with a politically active military.
In many post-colonial states, civilian institutions like the judiciary and parliament often lack the strength and legitimacy needed to control a powerful and well-organized military. This imbalance often leads to the military intervening in politics, whether through direct coups or indirect influence over national policy. This structural challenge is a major obstacle to the consolidation of stable and accountable democratic governance, as it prevents the establishment of a clear and effective civilian control over the armed forces.

196. (A) I, II, and IV
Nationalist movements in South Asia were driven by several powerful factors, including exposure to Western democratic ideals and a growing resentment of colonial economic exploitation. Racial discrimination and the exclusion of locals

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and economic cooperation among countries bordering the Bay of Bengal. It serves as a vital bridge between South Asia and Southeast Asia. While its members include India, Bangladesh, and Thailand, Pakistan is notably not a member. BIMSTEC has gained importance as a more functional regional forum because its member nations are generally more aligned and less paralyzed by the bilateral tensions that often hamper other organizations.

227. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalization integrates economies and cultures, but this can also lead to a "backlash" where people feel that their unique national or cultural identity is being threatened. This anxiety often triggers a resurgence of hyper-nationalism as a way to reassert local control and protect traditional values. This contradictory impact means that even as the world becomes more connected, it can also become more polarized, as globalization both breaks down and simultaneously reinforces national and regional barriers.

228. (D) APEC
The concept of "open regionalism" is a core principle of APEC, where member economies agree to lower trade barriers among themselves without creating a protectionist bloc against non-members. This approach is intended to promote global trade liberalization and ensure that regional integration efforts are compatible with the rules and goals of the World Trade Organization. It reflects APEC's commitment to a more open and integrated global economy that benefits both participating and non-participating nations alike.

229. (C) Line of Control (LoC) - India and Nepal
This pairing is incorrect because the Line of Control is actually the de facto military border between the Indian and Pakistani-controlled parts of the former princely state of Jammu and Kashmir. The border between India and Nepal is an open international boundary, although it has certain disputed areas like Kalapani. Other border lines are correctly matched: the Radcliffe Line separates India and Pakistan, the McMahon Line is the disputed border with China, and the Durand Line separates Pakistan and Afghanistan.

230. (B) Human security
When severe flooding or other climate-related disasters displace millions of people, it is a primary failure of human security. These events directly threaten people's lives, health, and economic stability, regardless of the country's military strength. Addressing these non-traditional security threats requires governments to prioritize disaster risk management, climate adaptation, and the protection of vulnerable populations, illustrating how human security is an essential component of modern national and regional stability in the face of environmental challenges.

231. (D) Free trade area with a common external tariff system.
A customs union is a level of economic integration that goes beyond a free trade area. While a free trade area eliminates tariffs among its members, a customs union also requires all member states to adopt the same external tariff system for goods coming from outside the union. This creates a more cohesive regional market and prevents trade from being diverted through the member country with the lowest individual tariffs. It is a significant step toward full economic and political integration.

232. (D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct
Strategic partnerships are not formal military alliances and do not carry a legally binding mutual defense obligation in times of war. Instead, they provide a flexible framework for countries to cooperate deeply in areas of mutual interest like defense technology, trade, and regional security. This allows states to strengthen their ties and coordinate their actions while still maintaining their strategic autonomy and the freedom to pursue their own independent foreign policy and national interests in a complex global environment.

233. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Internal security threats are often concentrated in specific geographic regions. The Rohingya crisis primarily affects the border region between Myanmar and Bangladesh. Baloch insurgency is a long-standing challenge in southwestern Pakistan. Tamil separatism was a major internal conflict that historically plagued Sri Lanka.

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and competing external interventions, which often make it a focal point of global strategic competition and tension.

204. (B) Establishing military bases in Australia
India's "Look East" policy was driven by the need for new markets after the 1991 reforms and a desire to counter rising Chinese influence in Southeast Asia. It also aimed to boost the development of India's landlocked Northeastern states by improving regional connectivity. However, establishing military bases in Australia was not a goal of this policy; instead, India has focused on building strategic partnerships and conducting joint military exercises with Australia and other regional partners.

205. (C) Nation-building
Successful state-building involves creating institutions and maintaining order, but nation-building is the separate process of forging a shared national identity among diverse citizens. If a government fails to create this sense of belonging, the state may remain fragile even if it is militarily strong. Without a common national identity, ethnic or regional loyalties can lead to internal conflict and a lack of legitimacy for the central government, making it difficult to maintain long-term stability and national unity.

206. (A) I, II, and IV
LPG policies in South Asia have had a complex impact on human security. While they have improved access to modern technologies and healthcare for many, they have also increased the precariousness of work in the informal sector. Furthermore, the benefits of globalization have often been concentrated in urban areas, widening the gap between the rich and the poor. These policies have not eliminated food insecurity, which remains a persistent challenge for millions of people across the region's developing economies.

207. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Sir Creek dispute involves a 96-kilometer strip of water in the Rann of Kutch marshlands between India and Pakistan. The disagreement over the border line has prevented the two countries from finalizing their maritime boundaries in the Arabian Sea. This area is strategically important not just for fishing rights but also because it is believed to hold significant oil and gas reserves, making it a high-stakes issue for the energy security and territorial claims of both nations.

208. (B) Geostrategic vulnerability at a chokepoint
When a nation relies on a single maritime route for its essential energy imports, any disruption at a strategic chokepoint along that route creates a massive national security crisis. This geostrategic vulnerability can be exploited by an adversary to cripple the country's economy without the need for a full-scale invasion. Protecting these vital sea lines of communication is therefore a top priority for modern naval strategy and for ensuring national and regional economic stability.

209. (B) BIMSTEC - Bay of Bengal Region
BIMSTEC is correctly identified as an organization focusing on the Bay of Bengal region, bridging South and Southeast Asia. Other pairings are incorrect: SAARC focuses on South Asia, not Southeast Asia; ASEAN is the organization for Southeast Asian nations; and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) focuses on the Indo-Pacific region, not the Atlantic Ocean. These regional bodies allow countries with shared geographic and strategic interests to coordinate their policies and address common regional challenges.

210. (A) Reduction in import tariffs and quotas
Economic liberalization is the process of reducing government intervention in the market to encourage trade and competition. A key part of this is lowering import tariffs and quotas to allow foreign goods to enter the domestic market more freely. This aims to increase efficiency by exposing domestic firms to international competition and providing consumers with more choices and lower prices. It also helps integrate the national economy more fully into global supply chains and the international trading system.

211. (C) Comprehensive understanding of all maritime domain associations.
Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) is the effective understanding of everything associated with the global maritime domain that could impact the security, safety, economy, or environment of a nation. This involves using

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factors, policymakers can better understand the strategic challenges and opportunities facing their nations in a complex and interconnected global political and economic environment.

182. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
Sri Lanka did indeed transition to a powerful executive presidency in 1978, a move that fundamentally reshaped its governance. However, the claim that it has avoided ethnic conflict is false. The country was embroiled in a brutal civil war for nearly thirty years between the government and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. This conflict had devastating impacts on the nation's social fabric and remains a central factor in its contemporary politics and reconciliation efforts.

183. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
Colonial legacies have profoundly influenced the challenges faced by post-colonial states. Arbitrary borders have led to enduring territorial disputes between nations. Extractive institutions left many states economically impoverished and dependent. Colonial favoritism toward specific ethnic groups often sparked long-term inter-ethnic resentment and conflict. Conversely, the introduction of the English language provided a common lingua franca that allowed diverse elites to communicate and organize nationalist movements across broad and culturally varied territories.

184. (A) Total reduction of internal inequality
Globalization has not led to a total reduction in internal inequality; in many cases, it has actually worsened the gap between different social and economic groups. While it has expanded the IT and service sectors and increased foreign investment, the benefits of these developments are often concentrated in urban areas and among those with specialized skills. This uneven distribution of wealth remains a major challenge for governments seeking to ensure that globalization benefits all segments of their population equally.

185. (C) Projecting power and securing territorial claims
When a state modernizes its navy and constructs artificial islands in contested waters, it is using its military and engineering capabilities to assert sovereignty over those areas. This strategy is primarily aimed at projecting power and physically securing its territorial claims, often at the expense of its neighbors. Such actions are a major source of regional tension, as they challenge the existing status quo and can lead to increased militarization and potential conflict in vital maritime zones.

186. (A) I, II, and IV
The LPG reforms in India were highly successful in dismantling the restrictive "License Raj" and attracting a massive surge of Foreign Direct Investment. They also expanded the role of the private sector in key areas like infrastructure and telecommunications. However, these reforms did not lead to uniform growth across all states; instead, they often benefited more developed regions with better infrastructure and skilled labor. This regional disparity remains a significant challenge for ensuring inclusive national development and social cohesion.

187. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Pakistan's early leaders emphasized a singular religious identity as the primary unifying force for the new state. However, this approach failed to adequately address the deep ethnic and linguistic differences between its western and eastern wings. The perceived economic and political marginalization of East Pakistan, combined with the suppression of its Bengali identity, eventually led to a civil war and the secession of Bangladesh. This tragic event illustrates the immense difficulty of nation-building in highly diverse post-colonial societies.

188. (B) Japan
The "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" (FOIP) concept was first articulated by former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe during a speech in Kenya in 2016. He envisioned a region where all nations follow a rules-based order, ensure freedom of navigation, and pursue economic prosperity through fair competition. This vision was later adopted and expanded upon by the United States, Australia, and India, becoming a central pillar of the Quad's collective strategic approach to the region.

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the beginning of its proactive and sustained engagement with the dynamic and growing economies of East Asia.

219. (D) It includes Afghanistan as its newest member.
SAARC was expanded in 2007 to include Afghanistan as its eighth member, reflecting the country's strategic importance to the South Asian region. Other statements about SAARC are incorrect: it does not have a common currency, its headquarters is in Kathmandu rather than New Delhi, and its attempts to create a customs union have been repeatedly stalled by bilateral political tensions. Despite these challenges, SAARC remains a key, if currently underperforming, platform for discussing regional cooperation and social development.

220. (B) State A builds defenses, and State B expands its offensive arsenal.
The security dilemma is characterized by a cycle of mutual suspicion and reaction. When one state takes actions to increase its security, such as building defensive fortifications, these actions are often perceived as potentially offensive or threatening by its neighbors. In response, the second state may expand its own offensive arsenal to ensure its safety. This can lead to an escalating arms race where both states end up feeling less secure than they were before the process began.

221. (C) Attraction through culture and political values.
Soft power is the ability of a nation to influence others and achieve its international goals through attraction and persuasion rather than through military force or economic coercion. This includes the global appeal of its culture, educational institutions, political values, and foreign policy. In the Indo-Pacific, extra-regional powers use soft power to build goodwill, foster positive diplomatic relationships, and create a shared vision of regional order that aligns with their own national interests and values.

222. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
Colonization forcibly integrated South Asian economies into a global capitalist system, primarily as suppliers of raw materials and markets for European manufactured goods. This unequal integration led to significant economic extraction and deindustrialization in the region. Far from resulting in an equitable distribution of wealth, the colonial system often concentrated resources in the hands of the imperial powers and a small group of local elites, leaving a legacy of deep-seated economic inequality and underdeveloped national industries.

223. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
Major actors in the Indo-Pacific have developed distinct maritime initiatives: India championing the SAGAR vision, while the United States follows its comprehensive Indo-Pacific Strategy. China's Maritime Silk Road is a key part of its broader Belt and Road Initiative. Finally, ASEAN has developed its own "ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific" to ensure that the organization remains central to the region's evolving strategic architecture and to promote a cooperative and rules-based regional order.

224. (B) Establishing a permanent military junta
Democratization is the process of building a more open and accountable political system based on free and fair elections, the protection of human rights, and the rule of law. Establishing a permanent military junta is the exact opposite of these goals, as it concentrates power in an unelected military elite and suppresses democratic participation. The success of democratization depends on the military's willingness to remain subordinate to civilian authority and respect the constitutional processes of the state.

225. (B) Prevent the spread of communism between states.
During the Cold War, the US "Domino Theory" suggested that if one country in Southeast Asia fell to communism, its neighbors would inevitably follow. This fear drove much of American foreign policy in the region, including its military intervention in Vietnam. The goal was to "contain" communist influence and prevent the emergence of a regional bloc that would be hostile to Western interests. This theory significantly shaped the regional balance of power and led to decades of intense superpower competition.

226. (A) I, III, and IV
BIMSTEC was established through the Bangkok Declaration in 1997 to promote technical

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from high-level governance also fueled the desire for self-determination. While economic resources are always important, the discovery of oil was not a primary driver of these early nationalist struggles. Instead, the focus was on regaining political sovereignty and achieving social and economic justice for the colonized population.

197. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Broad regional organizations like ASEAN often move slowly because they require a consensus among all member states, who may have very different national interests. This has led some nations to form "minilateral" groups like the Quad or AUKUS, which involve fewer members with more closely aligned strategic goals. These smaller groups can respond more quickly and effectively to specific security challenges, even as their members continue to publicly support the importance of broader regional organizations and ASEAN centrality.

198. (B) Growth potential from shifts toward a larger working-age population.
A demographic dividend occurs when a country's birth rate falls and its working-age population becomes larger than its dependent population (children and the elderly). This provides a significant opportunity for rapid economic growth if the government can provide adequate education, healthcare, and job opportunities for the youthful workforce. South Asia, with its large and young population, is currently in a position to benefit from this dividend, provided it can implement the necessary social and economic reforms.

199. (D) China is a founding member of the MGC.
This statement is incorrect because the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) is a regional initiative that specifically involves India and five Southeast Asian nations: Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. China is not a member of the MGC, although it has its own separate cooperative framework with the Mekong nations. The MGC focuses on leveraging the shared historical and cultural ties between India and the Mekong region to foster modern cooperation in tourism, culture, education, and transport.

200. (A) I, II, III, IV
Geopolitical doctrines have shaped international relations across different centuries: the Monroe Doctrine in 1823 sought to limit European influence in the Americas. The Truman Doctrine in 1947 focused on containing the spread of communism during the Cold War. The Gujral Doctrine in 1996 emphasized India's non-reciprocal support to its neighbors. Finally, the Obama administration's "Pivot to Asia" in 2011 reoriented American focus toward the Indo-Pacific. This sequence reflects the shifting centers of global and regional strategic importance.

201. (C) Conflict where forces possess significantly different military capabilities.
Asymmetric warfare occurs when two competing parties have vastly different levels of military power and resources. The weaker party often uses unconventional tactics, such as guerrilla warfare, terrorism, or cyberattacks, to offset the technological or numerical advantage of the stronger force. This type of conflict is common in modern insurgencies and civil wars, where non-state actors challenge the authority and military power of a central government through innovative and often unpredictable means.

202. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) is an intergovernmental organization that focuses on promoting regional cooperation in areas like maritime security, trade, and sustainable development. However, it is not a military alliance and does not have its own standing army or navy to enforce peace. Its primary value is in providing a forum for dialogue and the coordination of policy among its diverse member states to address shared non-traditional security challenges and foster economic growth across the region.

203. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
Geopolitical concepts provide a framework for understanding regional dynamics. A chokepoint is a critical maritime waterway, while a buffer state is a neutral country situated between rival powers. A sphere of influence is a region where a major power exerts significant economic or cultural control. Finally, a shatterbelt is a region characterized by chronic internal instability

Meanwhile, Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) or Naxalism remains a significant security challenge in several states across central and eastern India, reflecting deep-seated socio-economic grievances and ideological divisions within the nation.

234. (A) Nomadic government
A modern nation-state is fundamentally defined by several core characteristics, including a permanent population, a clearly defined territory, and national sovereignty. It must also have a stable government that can exert authority over its territory and enter into relations with other states. A "nomadic government" would lack the fixed territorial base and institutional stability that are necessary for a modern state to function and be recognized within the international system of sovereign and territorially-defined nations.

235. (D) Proximity to major Indian Ocean maritime sea lanes.
Sri Lanka's primary strategic value to global and regional powers lies in its central location in the Indian Ocean, very close to the major sea lanes that connect the Middle East and Africa with East Asia. This position makes it an ideal hub for maritime shipping and naval logistics. Consequently, controlling or having a strong influence over Sri Lanka's ports, like Colombo and Hambantota, is a major objective for powers seeking to secure their commercial and strategic interests in the region.

236. (A) I, II, and IV
Privatization in the LPG framework involves reducing the government's direct ownership and control of businesses. This is achieved through selling government equity and the strategic sale of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). The goal is to encourage private sector competition and improve the efficiency and innovation of national industries. This process stands in direct contrast to state monopolies, where the government has exclusive control over an industry and competition from the private sector is legally or practically prohibited.

237. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Extra-regional powers like the United States, France, and China maintain or seek to develop naval bases in the Indian Ocean to ensure that their maritime sea lines of communication remain open. Since a huge portion of global trade and energy supplies passes through this ocean, any disruption would have massive economic consequences. Having a permanent military presence allows these powers to protect their merchant ships, respond to threats like piracy, and project influence across the region's vital maritime theater.

238. (D) Globalisation and trade liberalization
The establishment of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 1995 to replace the GATT marked a major milestone in the history of globalization. The WTO provided a more comprehensive and legally binding framework for negotiating trade agreements and resolving disputes between member nations. This accelerated the process of trade liberalization by reducing tariffs and other barriers, leading to a massive expansion of international trade and the deeper integration of national economies into a single global marketplace.

239. (A) It stands for South Asian Free Trade Area.
SAFTA is a regional trade agreement among the eight member states of SAARC, aimed at reducing tariffs and promoting intra-regional trade. While it was a significant step toward economic integration, it has not completely eliminated all tariffs and its success has been limited by the same bilateral political tensions that have hampered SAARC itself. It notably does not include China, as it is specifically a South Asian regional agreement intended to foster cooperation among the subcontinent's neighboring nations.

240. (B) Legal framework established by the UNCLOS.
The concept of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) was formally established and codified by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). This international treaty provides a comprehensive legal framework for the use and protection of the world's oceans. It defines the rights and responsibilities of nations in their use of marine resources and sets out the boundaries for territorial waters and EEZs, helping to prevent and resolve maritime disputes through a rules-based international order.

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technology like satellites and radar, as well as intelligence sharing between countries, to track ship movements and detect threats like piracy or illegal fishing. MDA is essential for maintaining maritime security and protecting a nation's interests in its territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zones.

212. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
APEC has long sought to promote economic integration through the eventual establishment of a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP). However, India is not a member of APEC, despite its growing economic importance and long-standing interest in joining the forum. APEC remains a key venue for its twenty-one member economies to discuss trade liberalization and economic cooperation, but it operates through non-binding, voluntary commitments based on consensus rather than formal and legally binding international treaties.

213. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
Political challenges in the region are linked to specific structural and social issues. Ethnic secessionism involves a group seeking an independent state. A civil-military imbalance occurs when the military dictates national policy rather than being under civilian control. Authoritarianism is the concentration of power in an unaccountable leader. Finally, populism involves appealing to the "ordinary people" who feel their interests are being ignored by the established political elite, often leading to polarized and unpredictable political environments.

214. (B) Global weather patterns
Traditional elements of national power include tangible factors like geography, population size, and military capacity, as well as intangible factors like national morale and leadership quality. While global weather patterns and climate change are increasingly important for national security, they are not considered a traditional element of power that a state can control or project. Instead, they are external environmental factors that can impact a nation's resources and overall stability, requiring adaptation and international cooperation.

215. (D) Nation-building and conflict resolution.
Federalism is a powerful tool for nation-building in highly diverse societies because it allows different linguistic or ethnic groups to have a degree of self-governance within a single state. By decentralizing power, a government can accommodate local identities and address grievances that might otherwise lead to conflict or secessionist movements. This inclusive approach helps to foster a sense of belonging and national unity by ensuring that all groups feel their unique cultures are respected and protected.

216. (A) I, II, and III
India's "Act East Policy" is a comprehensive strategy to enhance its ties with the Indo-Pacific region through increased economic connectivity, cultural exchange, and defense partnerships. It aims to build deeper strategic and institutional links with ASEAN and other regional partners to address shared security challenges. Crucially, the policy does not involve India joining NATO, as it continues to prioritize its strategic autonomy and focuses on regional cooperation within the specific context of the Indo-Pacific rather than a transatlantic alliance.

217. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The transition from the "Asia-Pacific" to the "Indo-Pacific" construct is a response to the changing strategic landscape, particularly China's expanding footprint in the Indian Ocean through projects like the Belt and Road Initiative. This shift acknowledges that the security and economic futures of the two oceans are now inextricably linked. The broader framework allows nations like India and the US to better coordinate their efforts to maintain a stable and open maritime order across this vast and vital region.

218. (A) P.V. Narasimha Rao
The "Look East Policy" was launched in 1991 under the leadership of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao as part of India's broader economic and strategic reorientation after the Cold War. The policy sought to capitalize on the economic success of Southeast Asian nations and re-establish historical and cultural links that had been sidelined. This move was essential for India's post-1991 economic growth and marked

pressures of internal conflict and institutional instability.

248. (A) Bilateral political hostilities between key member states.
The success of development cooperation in SAARC is most heavily hampered by the long-standing political and military rivalry between India and Pakistan. This bilateral tension often leads to a lack of trust and political will, which prevents the effective implementation of regional agreements and collaborative projects. As a result, SAARC has often been unable to fulfill its potential as a vehicle for regional integration and economic development, despite the many shared challenges and cultural links that connect the diverse nations of the South Asian subcontinent.

249. (C) It is a founding member of ASEAN.
This statement is incorrect because the Maldives is a South Asian nation and is a member of SAARC, not ASEAN. However, other statements are true: the Maldives is a strategically located archipelago in the Indian Ocean and has transitioned from an autocracy into a multi-party democracy. Its domestic politics is often characterized by a strategic competition between different factions that favor closer ties with either India or China, reflecting the nation's importance in the broader geopolitical rivalry in the Indian Ocean.

250. (A) LPG (Liberalisation, Privatisation, and Globalisation)
The LPG framework describes the comprehensive economic reforms that transformed the Indian economy starting in 1991. Liberalization reduced state control and trade barriers, while Privatization shifted ownership of public companies to the private sector to improve efficiency. Globalization integrated the national economy into the world market through increased trade and foreign investment. Together, these three processes aimed to modernize the economy, boost GDP growth, and improve the country's competitiveness and strategic influence in the rapidly changing global and regional economic landscape.

251. (B) Its strategic significance
The geographic configuration of the Indo-Pacific region inherently dictates its strategic significance, transforming it into a primary theater for complex international interactions. Specific physical features like maritime chokepoints determine the level of interest from external powers. This spatial layout makes the region a critical focal point for securing supply chains and asserting naval dominance in the global landscape.

252. (A) By recalibrating it through persistent interventions
Extra-regional powers influence the geopolitical and geostrategic setting by recalibrating it through persistent interventions and strategic initiatives. These external actors seek to establish footholds to protect their naval dominance and supply routes. Their continuous presence often challenges local autonomy and forces a recalibration of regional security dynamics to account for the strategic ambitions of global players.

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253. (C) Immense pressure to align with external powers
In the contemporary Indo-Pacific, local nations must navigate immense pressure to align with extra-regional powers while striving to maintain their sovereign strategic independence. This delicate balancing act is a response to global actors seeking footholds in the region. Local states are forced to reconcile their own national interests with the strategic demands and security pressures of external forces.

254. (D) To secure supply chains and naval dominance
Extra-regional powers seek strategic footholds primarily to secure their own supply chains and assert naval dominance across critical maritime corridors. By establishing a presence at vital chokepoints, these external actors ensure the unhindered movement of resources and maintain strategic influence. This pursuit of security and dominance is a key driver behind the internationalization of localized regional conflicts.

255. (C) Fixed geopolitical realities and external interventions
The overarching security architecture of the Indo-Pacific is dictated by the constant interplay between fixed geopolitical realities and fluid external interventions. These geographic factors define the strategic importance of various zones, while the actions of extra-regional powers

recalibrate the local power balance. Together, these elements determine the structural framework through which regional stability and naval security are managed.

256. (B) The entrenched structures of colonialism
During the early twentieth century, the entrenched structures of colonialism inadvertently catalyzed unified nationalist sentiments among indigenous populations. The experience of systemic exclusion and economic exploitation under colonial rule served as a powerful unifying force. This shared suffering transformed fragmented regional identities into a cohesive movement, leading to the rise of nationalism as a direct challenge to foreign administration.

257. (D) Systemic political exclusion and economic exploitation
In the context of early political mobilization, systemic political exclusion and economic exploitation served as the primary grievances fueling initial resistance against colonial rule. Indigenous populations faced restricted access to power and severe economic hardship, which unified them in their opposition. These shared grievances transformed diverse local frustrations into a structured nationalist movement focused on overthrowing the colonial administrative apparatus.

258. (A) It unified identities into cohesive nationalism
The shared experience of subjugation under colonial rule unified diverse indigenous populations, transforming fragmented local identities into a cohesive expression of nationalism. This collective feeling of oppression functioned as a potent force that bridged regional differences. By creating a common purpose, this sense of unity allowed nationalist movements to mobilize mass participation against the entrenched structures of colonial administration.

259. (C) Coalitions driven by a rejection of colonialism
Independence movements are best characterized as complex coalitions driven by a unified rejection of colonialism and its administrative structures. These movements were not monolithic but represented a variety of interests that converged on the goal of achieving sovereignty. By leveraging nationalist sentiment, these coalitions methodically challenged colonial dominance and worked to dismantle the mechanisms that sustained foreign rule.

260. (A) Because strategies were determined by colonial mechanisms
The transition to sovereignty cannot be understood in isolation from the colonial context because the strategies and nature of independence movements were determined by colonial mechanisms. The specific ways in which colonialism excluded or exploited populations shaped the methods of resistance. Consequently, the resulting sovereign states were structurally influenced by the administrative apparatus they sought to replace and dismantle.

261. (D) Centralization of power and robust institutions
State building is primarily characterized by the centralization of administrative power and the establishment of robust institutions to project authority. This process focuses on creating a uniform structural framework that can effectively govern a territory. Unlike nation building, which deals with identity, state building emphasizes the technical and organizational aspects of governance to ensure the state's functional survival.

262. (B) Integrating diverse identities into one consciousness
Nation building demands the integration of diverse ethnic and linguistic identities into a singular national consciousness to create social cohesion. Unlike the structural focus of state building, nation building addresses the emotional and cultural dynamics of a population. This process is essential for forging a unified identity that can transcend regional differences and support a stable democratic framework.

263. (C) The systemic alienation of marginalized groups
When state authorities prioritize rigid institutional control over inclusive identity formation, the frequent result is the systemic alienation of marginalized groups. This prioritization focuses on maintaining administrative power at the expense of cultural integration. Such exclusion often leads to political instability and disrupts the democratic process, as certain segments of the

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population feel disconnected from the national identity.

264. (D) The systemic exclusion of marginalized groups
The systemic exclusion of marginalized groups inherently disrupts the democratic process by fostering political instability and social alienation. When diverse identities are not integrated into the national consciousness, the resulting friction weakens the legitimacy of state institutions. This instability prevents the smooth functioning of democratic mechanisms, as fragmented groups may challenge the state apparatus rather than participate.

265. (A) Authorities fail to harmonize structure with nation building
Democratic institutions often remain fragile in newly independent entities because authorities fail to harmonize rigid administrative structures with inclusive nation building strategies. When the state prioritizes institutional control over cultural integration, it creates a fractured populace. This lack of unity leaves institutions vulnerable to authoritarian pressures, as leaders may use force to maintain order in a divided nation.

266. (B) Shifts between democratic and authoritarian regimes
Following the initial transition to sovereignty, a recurrent pattern involves shifts between democratic governance and authoritarian political regimes. This volatility is often driven by the inability of civilian governments to manage rapid socio-economic changes. As legitimacy crises emerge, autocratic or military leaders may seize power, promising stability in exchange for centralized control, creating a cyclical process of regime change.

267. (B) Structural legacies of former colonial administrations
Post-independence developments in political regimes are deeply influenced by the structural legacies left behind by former colonial administrations. These institutional weaknesses often provide fertile ground for political instability and regime shifts. The transition to sovereignty is rarely a linear process, as the administrative frameworks inherited from the past frequently fail to accommodate the complex demands of a newly independent state.

268. (A) Inability to manage rapid economic and social changes
Crises of legitimacy for civilian governments often arise from their inability to effectively manage rapid economic and social transformations following independence. When a government cannot address these pressures, public trust erodes, creating opportunities for alternative political regimes to emerge. These crises often lead to shifts toward authoritarianism as factions vie for control to stabilize the volatile national situation.

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269. (C) As the sole guarantors of national stability
Alternative political regimes, such as military or autocratic administrations, typically position themselves as the sole guarantors of national stability during times of crisis. By claiming to be the only force capable of managing chaos, these regimes justify their centralized control. They emerge when civilian governments fail to maintain institutional legitimacy amidst intense social and economic pressures in the region.

270. (D) Capacity to maintain legitimacy amidst social pressures
The stability of any given political regime is heavily contingent upon its capacity to maintain institutional legitimacy while navigating ongoing socio-economic pressures. If a regime fails to meet the needs of its populace or manage domestic tensions, its authority is easily contested. Therefore, long-term survival depends on balancing power with the successful management of complex internal and external challenges.

271. (C) They directly exacerbate internal vulnerabilities
External threats to state security directly exacerbate internal vulnerabilities by placing additional strain on a nation's domestic stability. When outside pressures mount, existing social, political, or economic weaknesses become much more dangerous. This interaction demonstrates that state security is not merely a matter of external defense but is deeply linked to the internal resilience and health of the population.

CHAPTER 08

Central Asia, West Asia and Africa

1. Which region is geographically central to Halford Mackinder's Heartland Theory?
(A) North Africa
(B) Central Asia
(C) West Asia
(D) Southern Africa

2. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: West Asia forms a strategic land bridge connecting Asia, Africa, and Europe.
Statement II: The region's geopolitical significance is solely due to its freshwater reserves.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

3. Read the given assertion and reason and select the correct option.
Assertion (A): The Strait of Hormuz is a critical global geostrategic chokepoint.
Reason (R): A major portion of the world's traded oil supply passes through it.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

4. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the geopolitical setting of Africa.
(A) It is geographically bounded by the Mediterranean Sea to its northern border.
(B) The Horn of Africa maintains strategic oversight of the Bab el-Mandeb strait.
(C) The vast continent encompasses diverse and critical global mineral reserves.
(D) Landlocked nations in Africa face no significant strategic trade disadvantages.

5. Match the strategic chokepoints in List I with their adjacent regions in List II.
List I: (Strategic Chokepoints)
P. Suez Canal
Q. Bab el-Mandeb
R. Strait of Hormuz
S. Cape of Good Hope
List II: (Adjacent Regions)
1. South Africa
2. Egypt
3. Horn of Africa / Yemen
4. Persian Gulf / Oman
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

6. The term "Carter Doctrine" is historically associated with the security of which region?
(A) Central Asia
(B) Persian Gulf
(C) North Africa
(D) Sahel Region

7. Consider the following geographic features of Central Asia:
1. It is entirely landlocked.
2. It includes the Fergana Valley.
3. It borders the Caspian Sea.
4. It features tropical rainforests.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3 and 4
(B) 2, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 2 and 4
(D) 1, 2 and 3

8. Which of the following is not a geopolitical challenge for Central Asian republics?
(A) Overpopulation of coastal cities
(B) Access to open seas
(C) Cross-border water management
(D) Drug trafficking routes

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the military or diplomatic backing needed to strengthen its position in a dispute. This strategy often complicates negotiations, as the conflict becomes tied to the strategic calculations of external powers.

281. (A) Cultivating a highly integrated economic zone
ASEAN has successfully distinguished itself in the context of regional trade by cultivating a highly integrated economic zone among its member states. Through robust institutional frameworks, the organization has enhanced development cooperation and fostered a cohesive market environment. This successful integration demonstrates how structured partnerships can overcome diverse interests to prioritize collective economic growth and regional stability in Southeast Asia.

282. (B) Systemic political deadlocks among its member states
Meaningful regional trade within SAARC is severely impeded by systemic political deadlocks between its member states. These ongoing disputes prevent the organization from fulfilling its potential as a vehicle for economic integration. Because political tensions take precedence over shared development goals, the institutional framework remains stagnant, forcing members to look for alternative avenues to achieve their strategic and economic objectives.

283. (B) To bridge South and Southeast Asia
States are increasingly pivoting toward BIMSTEC to bridge South and Southeast Asia, seeking a more reliable avenue for regional cooperation. This organization offers a platform for countries that find other institutions hindered by political deadlocks. By connecting these two diverse sub-regions, BIMSTEC facilitates trade and development cooperation that might otherwise be blocked by unresolved bilateral disputes in the area.

284. (A) Reallocating capital to alternative organizations
The shift toward BIMSTEC illustrates a pragmatic approach to regional architecture, where states reallocate their diplomatic capital to alternative organizations when others fail. If a primary institution like SAARC is paralyzed by political deadlocks, member nations dynamically seek more effective frameworks to pursue trade. This flexibility allows states to maintain strategic partnerships and economic progress despite the stagnation of traditional forums.

285. (C) Aligned interests and overcoming disputes
A sustainable strategic partnership requires more than just geographical proximity; it also necessitates aligned economic interests and the political will to overcome disputes. Nations must prioritize overarching regional trade and development cooperation over bilateral grievances to ensure long-term stability. Successful integration depends on the ability of member states to harmonize their goals within an effective and functional institutional framework.

286. (D) Accelerating trade through tariff reductions
APEC primarily functions to accelerate regional trade by facilitating tariff reductions and market integrations among its member economies. This organization focuses on meeting the economic imperatives of its diverse participants, driving aggregate growth through increased market access. By lowering barriers to commerce, APEC serves as a crucial engine for economic development and integration across the expansive Indo-Pacific geographic zone.

287. (C) ARF
The ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) is highlighted for its role in laying the political groundwork necessary for a stable strategic partnership through its security dialogue mechanism. By providing a platform for discussing regional threats and safety, ARF creates an environment of predictability. This dialogue is essential for fostering the trust required to support broader economic and development cooperation goals.

288. (B) Capacity building and cultural connectivity
The Mekong-Ganga Cooperation exemplifies targeted development cooperation by focusing heavily on capacity building and cultural connectivity between specific sub-regions. This organization aims to strengthen the ties between member states through shared heritage and educational initiatives. By prioritizing these localized needs, the forum enhances the social and human dimensions of cooperation, complementing larger regional economic and strategic frameworks.

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289. (D) Intertwining trade with maritime safety
IORA attempts to unify Indian Ocean littoral states by intertwining elements of regional trade with comprehensive maritime safety initiatives. This dual focus ensures that economic cooperation is supported by a secure maritime environment. By addressing both commerce and safety, the organization creates a multifaceted framework that caters to the unique geographic and strategic requirements of nations bordering the Indian Ocean.

290. (A) Institutional density holistically advances trade
The simultaneous operation of diverse organizations like IORA, ARF, and APEC demonstrates that institutional density holistically advances regional trade. No single forum can address every geographic and strategic need; instead, an overlapping web of institutions is required. These specialized platforms work together to ensure sustainable development, enhance security dialogue, and solidify the long-term strategic objectives of the various member states.

291. (C) Dismantling controls and reducing trade barriers
The impact of Liberalisation is most evident in the deliberate dismantling of rigid bureaucratic controls and the significant reduction of trade barriers. These reforms are designed to eliminate the obstacles that historically stifled foreign investment and restricted economic growth. By opening up the market, states aim to foster a more dynamic environment that can better integrate into the global system.

292. (A) To foster competitive efficiency
The transfer of inefficient state-run enterprises into the private sector through privatization aims to foster competitive efficiency. By shifting ownership, the state seeks to reduce the burden of managing non-performing assets and encourage market-driven productivity. This process is intended to modernize the domestic economy, making it more agile and capable of competing in a highly interdependent global economic system.

293. (D) Integrating them into the global economic system
Globalisation has significantly affected previously insulated domestic markets by integrating them into the expansive and highly interdependent global economic system. This process allows local economies to access international trade networks and technological advancements. However, this deep integration also exposes domestic industries to intense competitive pressures and global market fluctuations, requiring states to balance economic openness with the protection of national interests.

294. (B) Generated severe socio-economic disparities
While LPG reforms have accelerated aggregate economic growth and technological integration, they have simultaneously generated severe socio-economic disparities within the region. The benefits of macroeconomic expansion are often distributed unevenly, leading to a widening gap between different societal groups. This dual narrative shows that while the overall economy may thrive, many vulnerable populations face new forms of economic insecurity and alienation.

295. (C) State withdrawal from subsidized public services
Vulnerable populations have often been marginalized as a result of Privatisation because of the state's withdrawal from providing subsidized public services. When essential sectors are transferred to private control, the focus shifts toward profit and efficiency, which can exclude those unable to afford market prices. This transition creates acute microeconomic vulnerabilities for citizens who once relied on the state safety net.

296. (D) Ongoing regional territorial disputes demanding border militarization
Ongoing regional territorial disputes that demand heavy border militarization drain crucial domestic resources away from internal nation building efforts. Instead of investing in social cohesion or cultural integration, states are forced to prioritize defense and security expenditures. This diversion of funds and focus hampers the ability of a nation to develop a unified national identity and address domestic needs.

297. (A) Introducing external forces and market integration
The impact of LPG challenges the state's sovereign economic control by introducing external forces and integrating local markets

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into the international system. As privatization and globalization take hold, the state's ability to unilaterally direct the domestic economy decreases. This loss of control creates friction between the global economic imperatives of open markets and the traditional requirements of self-reliant nation building.

298. (B) Domestic industries essential for nation building
Domestic industries that are essential for fostering self-reliant nation building face severe competitive pressures as a result of Privatisation and Globalisation. When local markets are opened to international actors, traditional sectors often struggle to keep pace with global efficiency and scale. This economic strain can weaken the foundation of national identity if those industries were central to the country's self-image.

299. (B) LPG's open borders vs. security's strict controls
The fundamental contradiction in the case involves the conflict between the open borders required for LPG and the strict controls demanded by security. While economic integration thrives on cooperation and accessibility, unresolved territorial issues necessitate aggressive nationalist rhetoric and militarized boundaries. States must constantly balance these opposing needs, weighing economic efficiency against the ideological and security requirements of the nation.

300. (A) Aggressive nation building and territorial issues
Nationalist rhetoric and strict border controls are often utilized by states as tools for aggressive nation building and managing territorial issues. These measures help consolidate a sense of national identity against external threats but frequently clash with the cooperative requirements of global economic integration. By emphasizing security, states attempt to protect their sovereignty while navigating the complex pressures of the modern world.

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272. (B) Resource scarcity and political fragmentation
Internal crises such as resource scarcity and political fragmentation significantly compromise human security within a state. These domestic issues create a fragile environment where individuals face threats to their basic well-being. When a population's security is degraded by these factors, the overall strength of the state is undermined, making it more vulnerable to both internal collapse and external aggression.

273. (D) Weakened state apparatus, amplifying susceptibility
Degraded human security results in a weakened state apparatus, which in turn amplifies a country's susceptibility to various threats. When individuals within a nation face extreme hardship or fragmentation, the institutions designed to protect the state lose their effectiveness. This degradation creates a cycle where internal instability and external vulnerability reinforce each other, compromising the overall security architecture.

274. (A) Internal and external threats are highly intertwined
Traditional state-centric defense mechanisms often prove inadequate because internal and external threats are highly intertwined in the modern geopolitical landscape. Focusing solely on military might against external foes ignores the domestic vulnerabilities that can undermine a nation from within. Effective security requires a holistic approach that recognizes how human well-being and state defense are fundamentally connected and mutually dependent.

275. (C) State security must be linked to human security
Holistic security frameworks mandate that state security must be linked to human security to effectively protect a nation. Policymakers are encouraged to recognize that traditional military defense is insufficient if the internal population is suffering from resource scarcity or political fragmentation. By integrating these two aspects, states can create a more resilient and sustainable overarching framework for national stability.

276. (A) Regional territorial and maritime issues
Regional territorial and maritime issues serve as a frequent catalyst for the intervention of extra-regional powers in the Indo-Pacific. These disputes over maritime zones and archipelagos create strategic openings that external actors exploit to protect their own interests. The presence of these unresolved conflicts draws global powers into localized theaters, fundamentally altering the security dynamics of the entire region.

277. (D) Ambiguous historical claims and competing interests
Regional territorial and maritime issues often remain unresolved due to ambiguous historical claims and competing economic interests among the involved states. Littoral nations frequently struggle to agree on borders when valuable resources are at stake. These historical and economic complications prevent simple legal settlements, leading to protracted disputes that invite external involvement and complicate the overall regional security architecture.

278. (B) Strategic vacuum from protracted maritime disputes
A strategic vacuum created by protracted maritime disputes facilitates the increasing role of extra-regional powers in localized conflicts. When local states are unable to resolve territorial disagreements, external actors often step in to secure sea lanes or influence the outcome. This involvement internationalizes the dispute, as global powers seek to ensure their own naval access and resource transit routes.

279. (C) Localized disputes are transformed into broader geopolitical flashpoints
When regional territorial and maritime issues undergo internationalization, localized disputes are transformed into broader geopolitical flashpoints. This process occurs as extra-regional powers intervene to protect their interests, complicating the original conflict with global strategic rivalries. What began as a local disagreement over borders becomes a matter of international concern, involving naval dominance and the security of global supply chains.

280. (D) Bolstering claims through external support
Local states may attempt to bolster their territorial claims by leveraging the involvement and support of extra-regional powers. By aligning with a global actor, a smaller nation can gain

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9. What is the most appropriate description of a rentier state in West Asia?
(A) A state that relies almost exclusively on receiving various forms of foreign aid.
(B) A state that imposes high income taxes on all its domestic citizens and businesses.
(C) A state deriving its primary revenue from the export of indigenous natural resources.
(D) A state dependent on the large-scale production and export of agricultural goods.

10. Read the following events and select the correct chronological order regarding African colonization.
I. The Berlin Conference
II. The scramble for Africa begins
III. Formation of the Organization of African Unity
IV. Decolonization wave following WWII
(A) II, I, IV, III
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, IV, I, III
(D) I, III, II, IV

11. Which conceptual framework best applies to understanding the "Great Game" in Central Asia?
(A) Constructivism
(B) Neoliberal Institutionalism
(C) Democratic Peace Theory
(D) Classical Realism

12. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: The Sykes-Picot Agreement artificially determined modern borders in West Asia.
Statement II: This agreement respected the ethno-religious demographic realities of the region.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

13. Which of the following correctly pairs an African nationalist leader with their country?
(A) Kwame Nkrumah - South Africa
(B) Nelson Mandela - Ghana
(C) Jomo Kenyatta - Kenya
(D) Julius Nyerere - Nigeria

14. Which cause-effect dynamic explains the early rise of Arab nationalism?
(A) The discovery of crude oil reserves led to universal religious unity.
(B) Cold War bipolarity successfully terminated all previous colonial borders.
(C) Global climate change trends caused widespread tribal unification efforts.
(D) Ottoman decline spurred the desire for autonomous Arab self-governance.

15. Consider the following factors facilitating colonialism in Africa:
1. Industrial Revolution in Europe
2. Discovery of quinine
3. Superior military technology
4. Unified pan-African resistance
5. Exploitation of local rivalries
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 3 and 5
(B) 1, 3, 4 and 5
(C) 2, 3, 4 and 5
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

16. What defines "Neo-colonialism" in the post-independence African context?
(A) Direct military occupation conducted by former colonial administrations.
(B) Indirect control achieved through economic and cultural dependencies.
(C) Voluntary annexation by European states seeking territorial expansion.
(D) Complete isolation of the domestic state from global market systems.

17. Identify the correct statement regarding Central Asia's incorporation into the Soviet Union.
(A) It was implemented with no significant indigenous or tribal resistance.
(B) It resulted in the arbitrary creation of internal administrative borders.
(C) It aimed specifically to preserve traditional nomadic lifestyles and culture.
(D) It granted the republics complete sovereign independence by the year 1950.

18. Which movement was instrumental in Algerian independence?
(A) FLN (National Liberation Front)

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(B) Mau Mau Uprising
(C) ANC (African National Congress)
(D) SWAPO

19. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: The Balfour Declaration expressed support for a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine.
Statement II: The Declaration was issued by the Ottoman Empire.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

20. The mandate system in West Asia was established by which organization?
(A) United Nations
(B) NATO
(C) Warsaw Pact
(D) League of Nations

21. Which pair incorrectly matches an independence movement with its region?
(A) Basmachi Movement - Central Asia
(B) Arab Revolt - West Asia
(C) Mau Mau Uprising - North Africa
(D) Maji Maji Rebellion - East Africa

22. What was the primary motivation behind the concept of "Ujamaa" in post-independence Tanzania?
(A) Promoting capitalist industrialization through foreign corporate investment.
(B) Fostering regional African socialism and collective national self-reliance.
(C) Establishing a theocratic state based on traditional religious principles.
(D) Encouraging foreign direct investment from Western developmental agencies.

23. Read the given assertion and reason and select the correct option.
Assertion (A): Democratization in Central Asia post-1991 has been largely slow or stagnant.
Reason (R): Post-Soviet leaders successfully institutionalized multi-party liberal democracies immediately upon independence.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

24. Evaluate the following geopolitical case.
A West Asian state struggles with democratization because its societal structure prioritizes tribal loyalty over national identity. This reflects the challenge of:
(A) State-building over nation-building
(B) Economic liberalization
(C) Nuclear proliferation
(D) Climate change mitigation

25. Match the political regime type in List I with its prevalent regional example context in List II.
List I: (Political Regime Type)
P. Absolute Monarchy
Q. Authoritarian Presidentialism
R. Emerging Democracy
S. Theocracy
List II: (Regional Example Context)
1. Central Asia
2. West Asia (Gulf)
3. Iran
4. Certain Sub-Saharan states (e.g., Ghana)
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

26. The "Resource Curse" concept is frequently applied to state-building challenges in Africa because:
(A) Resource wealth often correlates with corruption and poor governance.
(B) High resource abundance leads inevitably to rapid democratic evolution.
(C) Resources attract foreign aid which ensures total state self-sufficiency.
(D) A lack of resources forces the state toward technological innovation.

27. Consider the following hurdles to state-building in West Asia:
1. Sectarian divisions
2. External interventions
3. Weak civil society
4. Total absence of natural resources
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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(A) 1, 3 and 4
(B) 2, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 2 and 4
(D) 1, 2 and 3

28. Identify the correct pair regarding political transition.
(A) Tulip Revolution - Occurred in Egypt
(B) Arab Spring - Began in Tunisia
(C) Cedar Revolution - Occurred in Yemen
(D) Jasmine Revolution - Occurred in Kyrgyzstan

29. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: The existence of strong patriarchal and tribal systems has historically aided rapid democratic transitions in West Asia.
Statement II: Civil society organizations require political space to foster democratization.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

30. Which external factor has most frequently complicated democratic state-building in Africa?
(A) The provision of bilateral grants by a coalition of small island nations.
(B) The geopolitical expansion and integration efforts of the European Union.
(C) The adherence of regional states to the Antarctic Treaty System protocols.
(D) Structural Adjustment Programs mandated by international financial bodies.

31. Which of the following best defines "Consociationalism" in a West Asian context like Lebanon?
(A) Power-sharing among different sectarian groups
(B) Absolute rule by a single military dictator
(C) Total separation of state and religion
(D) Economic nationalization of all industries

32. In post-independence Central Asia, the political regimes largely transitioned from Soviet communism to:
(A) Stable and liberal multiparty democratic systems.
(B) The practice of neopatrimonial authoritarianism.
(C) Strictly religious and theocratic republics.
(D) Traditional and constitutional monarchical rules.

33. Why did early post-colonial African states often adopt one-party systems?
(A) To align with existing Western liberal democratic frameworks.
(B) To prevent ethnic fragmentation and consolidate national unity.
(C) To facilitate the re-colonization process by European powers.
(D) To promote the expansion of unrestricted free market capitalism.

34. Identify the incorrect statement regarding political regimes in West Asia.
(A) All Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states are functioning republics.
(B) Saudi Arabia is governed as an absolute monarchy.
(C) Israel features a parliamentary democratic system.
(D) Iran's regime includes both elected and unelected theocratic institutions.

35. Consider the following features of military regimes in post-independence Africa:
1. Suspension of the constitution
2. Dissolution of parliament
3. Expansion of free press
4. Rule by decree
5. Justification based on anti-corruption

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Suspension of constitution, dissolution of parliament, rule by decree, anti-corruption
(B) 1, 3, 4 and 5
(C) 1, 2, 4 and 5
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

36. What is a "hybrid regime"?
(A) A state fully managed by an advanced artificial intelligence government.
(B) A traditional tribal monarchy that operates without a written constitution.
(C) A sovereign state that lacks any officially recognized central government.

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57. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: Central Asia has experienced zero border disputes since the collapse of the Soviet Union.
Statement II: The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) plays a role in regional security in Central Asia.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

58. French military interventions in West Africa (e.g., Operation Barkhane) primarily targeted:
(A) Islamist militant groups
(B) Drug cartels
(C) Rival European powers
(D) Democratic protesters

59. Which concept best defines the strategic partnership where an extra-regional power guarantees the security of a regional state in exchange for energy access?
(A) Neoliberal institutionalism
(B) Hegemonic stability
(C) Democratic peace
(D) Patron-client relationship

60. The Abraham Accords signify a shift in regional relations primarily in:
(A) Central Asia
(B) West Asia
(C) East Africa
(D) Southern Africa

61. Which organization is the primary framework for regional integration across the African continent?
(A) ECOWAS
(B) SADC
(C) African Union (AU)
(D) COMESA

62. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) aims to:
(A) Introduce a single African currency immediately
(B) Dissolve all national borders
(C) Restrict trade with Asia
(D) Create a single market for goods and services

63. Read the given assertion and reason and select the correct option.
Assertion (A): Regional trade among Central Asian states remains comparatively low.
Reason (R): Their economies are largely competitive rather than complementary, heavily relying on primary resource exports.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

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64. Identify the correct pair regarding regional organizations.
(A) GCC - Central Asia
(B) ECOWAS - West Africa
(C) SCO - Southern Africa
(D) SADC - West Asia

65. Match the organization in List I with its primary focus or region in List II.
List I: (Organization)
P. OPEC
Q. Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)
R. IGAD
S. Arab League
List II: (Primary Focus/Region)
1. Horn of Africa development
2. Global oil production coordination
3. Post-Soviet economic integration
4. Arab political cooperation
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

66. The strategic partnership between India and West Asian nations has expanded recently from energy buyer-seller to include:
(A) Security, defense, and diaspora welfare
(B) Collaborative joint space station missions
(C) The formation of a complete monetary union
(D) The establishment of unrestricted open borders

(C) The GCC
(D) The Kurdish population

47. Consider the following aspects of human security challenges in Sub-Saharan Africa:
1. Food insecurity
2. High prevalence of infectious diseases
3. Rapid demographic explosion
4. Widespread nuclear proliferation

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 3
(B) 1, 3 and 4
(C) 2, 3 and 4
(D) 1, 2 and 4

48. A rapid influx of refugees due to conflict in a neighboring state primarily affects the host nation's:
(A) Nuclear deterrence capabilities
(B) Human and state security infrastructure
(C) Space program
(D) Absolute monarchy status

49. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: The Fergana Valley is characterized by complex borders and ethnic heterogeneity, making it a hotspot for internal security threats.
Statement II: The Fergana Valley is located in North Africa.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

50. Which exception undermines state security in the Sahel region?
(A) Strong border enforcement capabilities
(B) Proliferation of small arms
(C) Weak governance
(D) Cross-border nomadic militancy

51. The involvement of extra-regional powers in the Syrian conflict is best described as a:
(A) Consociational agreement
(B) Trade dispute
(C) Proxy war
(D) Democratic transition

52. Which extra-regional power has heavily invested in Africa through the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)?
(A) United States
(B) Russia
(C) Japan
(D) China

53. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
(A) It has generated multiple regional wars.
(B) The Oslo Accords established a framework for peace.
(C) The issue of Jerusalem is universally resolved.
(D) Extra-regional powers frequently veto UN resolutions regarding it.

54. The role of the Wagner Group in African conflicts signifies the influence of which extra-regional power?
(A) France
(B) Russia
(C) United States
(D) China

55. Consider the following regarding regional conflicts in West Asia:
1. Iran-Saudi rivalry is a major driver.
2. The USA maintains military bases in the region.
3. Sectarianism is often weaponized.
4. The GCC resolves all conflicts peacefully.
5. Non-state actors play significant roles.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3, 4 and 5
(B) 2, 3, 4 and 5
(C) 1, 2, 3 and 4
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 5

56. What is the primary cause of conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)?
(A) Intense competition for control over vast domestic mineral wealth.
(B) A territorial dispute regarding access to the Mediterranean Sea.
(C) An ideological clash centered on the adoption of communism.
(D) A religious dispute regarding the management of various holy sites.

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Statement I: The borders of modern Central Asian states were drawn during the Soviet era.
Statement II: These borders perfectly align with the region's ethnic distributions.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

98. Which event is considered a major catalyst for the rise of modern Arab nationalism?
(A) The collapse of the Ottoman Empire after WWI.
(B) The historical fall of the Western Roman Empire.
(C) The discovery of the American continent in 1492.
(D) The political success of the Iranian Revolution.

99. The "Jadid" movement in Central Asia was primarily focused on:
(A) Achieving a military conquest of the Russian state.
(B) Promoting the installation of an absolute monarchy.
(C) Islamic revivalism and modern educational reform.
(D) Rejecting all forms of modern industrial technology.

100. Read the following and select the correct chronological order of the independence of these African nations.
I. Ghana
II. Zimbabwe
III. South Sudan
IV. Kenya
(A) I, IV, II, III
(B) I, II, IV, III
(C) IV, I, II, III
(D) I, III, II, IV

101. Nation-building differs from state-building because nation-building primarily focuses on:
(A) Constructing physical infrastructure like roads and dams.
(B) Establishing permanent military bases in key regions.
(C) Creating a shared sense of national identity and unity.
(D) Drafting various annual economic and political budgets.

102. Which of the following poses the greatest challenge to democratization in rentier states?
(A) The maintenance of high domestic literacy rates.
(B) The weakening of the "taxation-representation" dynamic.
(C) Excessive levels of public political participation.
(D) A total lack of any exploitable natural resources.

103. Read the given assertion and reason and select the correct option.
Assertion (A): Many Sub-Saharan African states experience chronic political instability.
Reason (R): Artificial colonial borders forced disparate ethnic groups into single state entities.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

104. Identify the incorrect statement regarding post-independence state-building in West Asia.
(A) Civil society operates with complete freedom in all countries.
(B) State-building often prioritized regime security over civil liberties.
(C) The military has frequently played a dominant political role.
(D) Oil wealth has been used to consolidate state power.

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105. Match the challenge to democratization in List I with its corresponding regional example in List II.
List I: (Challenge to Democratization)
P. Ethnic polarization
Q. Sectarian conflict
R. Clan-based patronage
S. Entrenched military influence
List II: (Regional Example)
1. Egypt
2. Lebanon
3. Central Asia
4. Rwanda (pre-1994 context)

67. Consider the following impacts of Chinese development cooperation in Africa:
1. Infrastructure development
2. Increased national debt
3. Promotion of democratic political reforms
4. Resource extraction

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 3
(B) 2, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 2 and 4
(D) 1, 3 and 4

68. Which feature is an exception to the goals of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)?
(A) Achieving economic integration among the various member nations.
(B) The coordination of a collective regional security framework.
(C) The strategic coordination of unified foreign policy initiatives.
(D) The promotion and implementation of universal adult franchise.

69. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) is an economic development program of the African Union.
Statement II: NEPAD strictly prohibits foreign direct investment.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

70. Read the following and select the correct chronological order of the establishment of these organizations.
I. Organization of African Unity (OAU)
II. Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
III. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)
IV. African Union (AU)
(A) I, II, IV, III
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, I, III, IV
(D) II, III, I, IV

71. Globalization has impacted West Asia primarily by:
(A) Successfully eradicating all domestic religious identities.
(B) Permanently ending all previous forms of internal conflict.
(C) Completely replacing Arabic with English as the primary language.
(D) Integrating global oil markets and exposing states to economic shocks.

72. Which term best describes the negative impact of globalization on traditional African local industries?
(A) Deindustrialization due to cheap imports
(B) Rapid technological monopoly
(C) Excessive intellectual property rights
(D) Unrestricted sovereign wealth

73. State sovereignty in Central Asia faces challenges from globalization through:
(A) A resurgence of national isolationism.
(B) Successful strict border control measures.
(C) Transnational digital networks and information flow.
(D) The formal revival of the Soviet Union.

74. Identify the incorrect statement regarding globalization in Africa.
(A) It has completely eradicated poverty.
(B) It has facilitated mobile banking innovations like M-Pesa.
(C) It has widened the digital divide.
(D) It integrates African resources into global supply chains.

75. Consider the following cultural impacts of globalization in West Asia:
1. Spread of Western consumer culture
2. Rise of localized identity politics as a backlash
3. Complete secularization of society
4. Increased use of global social media platforms
5. Homogenization of local dialects

Which of the above statement(s) highlight(s) realistic impacts?
(A) 1, 3 and 5
(B) 2, 3 and 4
(C) 3, 4 and 5
(D) 1, 2 and 4

76. Remittances are a critical economic aspect of globalization for many countries in which region?

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(D) A system blending democratic electoral processes with authoritarian traits.

37. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: Most post-Soviet Central Asian states have experienced frequent and peaceful transfers of power between rival political parties.
Statement II: Leaders in these states have often extended their rule through controversial constitutional referendums.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

38. The political system of post-apartheid South Africa is best described as:
(A) A single-party military dictatorship
(B) A multiparty constitutional democracy
(C) An absolute monarchy
(D) A one-party socialist republic

39. Which concept applies when a state provides public goods relying on oil revenues rather than domestic taxation to maintain regime survival?
(A) Democratic peace
(B) Constructivism
(C) Securitization
(D) Rentier state theory

40. Read the following and select the correct chronological order of political developments.
I. Independence of Kazakhstan
II. The Arab Spring
III. End of Apartheid in South Africa
IV. Establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran
(A) IV, I, III, II
(B) I, IV, III, II
(C) IV, III, I, II
(D) III, IV, II, I

41. Which dynamic represents an internal threat to state security in Africa?
(A) Intercontinental ballistic missiles
(B) Global financial market fluctuations
(C) Ethnic separatism and insurgency
(D) Foreign space exploration

42. Human security conceptually shifts the focus of security from:
(A) The state to the individual
(B) The individual to the military
(C) Economics to geopolitics
(D) The environment to outer space

43. Read the given assertion and reason and select the correct option.
Assertion (A): Water scarcity in West Asia is a major human security threat.
Reason (R): Desalination plants have permanently eliminated the region's agricultural water crisis.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

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44. Identify the correct pair linking a security threat to its primary affected region.
(A) Boko Haram insurgency - Central Asia
(B) Aral Sea ecological disaster - Central Asia
(C) Houthis conflict - Southern Africa
(D) Al-Shabaab - West Asia

45. Match the external/internal threat in List I with its context in List II.
List I: (Threat Type)
P. Piracy
Q. Narcoterrorism
R. Cyber Warfare
S. Desertification
List II: (Context)
1. Stuxnet targeting Iranian facilities
2. Environmental human security challenge in Sahel
3. Threat near the Horn of Africa
4. Illicit drug trade funding militants in Central Asia
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

46. What constitutes a "stateless nation" security challenge in West Asia?
(A) The European Union
(B) The Arab League

87. Consider the following regarding Africa's geopolitical importance:
1. Growing demographic dividend
2. Abundance of rare earth elements
3. Lack of any coastline
4. Voting power bloc in the UN General Assembly

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 3
(B) 2, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 3 and 4
(D) 1, 2 and 4

88. What is the geopolitical significance of the Caspian Sea?
(A) Its legal status impacts the exploitation of rich sub-sea oil and gas fields.
(B) It serves as the primary maritime route to the Atlantic Ocean.
(C) It acts as a geographic barrier dividing Africa from Europe.
(D) It is characterized as being completely devoid of natural resources.

89. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: The Horn of Africa is geostrategically irrelevant to global trade.
Statement II: The region faces persistent instability affecting maritime security in the Red Sea.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

90. The concept of "String of Pearls" is a geopolitical theory primarily associated with the maritime strategy of:
(A) China
(B) India
(C) United States
(D) Japan

91. Which colonial power practiced the policy of "Assimilation" in its African colonies?
(A) Britain
(B) Portugal
(C) Belgium
(D) France

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92. The discovery of oil in Iran in 1908 led to immense influence by which colonial power?
(A) France
(B) Great Britain
(C) Russia
(D) Germany

93. What was a primary objective of the Pan-Africanism movement?
(A) Promoting the expansion of European colonization.
(B) Uniting Africans for political and economic progress.
(C) Establishing a single global African imperial state.
(D) Dividing the continent into smaller ethnic nations.

94. Identify the correct pair regarding decolonization.
(A) Algeria - Former British colony
(B) Egypt - Former Belgian colony
(C) Angola - Former Spanish colony
(D) Libya - Former Italian colony

95. Consider the following features of colonial economic structures in Africa:
1. Focus on cash crop exports
2. Extraction of raw materials
3. Development of heavy indigenous manufacturing
4. Creation of infrastructure solely linking mines to ports
5. Equitable wealth distribution

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 4
(B) 1, 3 and 5
(C) 2, 3 and 4
(D) 1, 4 and 5

96. Zionism emerged in the late 19th century as a nationalist movement advocating for:
(A) Arab unity across the Middle East
(B) A Jewish homeland in Palestine
(C) The preservation of the Ottoman Empire
(D) British control over the Suez Canal

97. Read the following statements and select the correct option.

(A) Developed North America
(B) Central Asia and North Africa
(C) Western Europe
(D) Scandinavia

77. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: Globalization only involves economic integration.
Statement II: Globalization facilitates the transnational spread of non-state armed groups.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

78. Which concept applies when global human rights norms challenge local traditional practices in Africa?
(A) Comprehensive economic liberalization
(B) Mandatory structural adjustment
(C) Persistent democratic deficit
(D) Norm diffusion and cultural friction

79. The role of Sovereign Wealth Funds (SWFs) in West Asia indicates their participation in:
(A) Global financial capitalism
(B) Local barter economies
(C) Isolationist trade policies
(D) Command economies

80. How has globalization affected environmental security in Central Asia?
(A) It has worked toward completely reversing climate change impacts.
(B) Water-intensive export agriculture has increased ecological stress.
(C) It has mandated an immediate end to regional fossil fuel consumption.
(D) It has isolated the region from the effects of global warming trends.

81. Which geopolitical theory suggests that control over Eurasia guarantees world domination?
(A) Rimland Theory
(B) Heartland Theory
(C) Sea Power Theory
(D) Domino Theory

82. The term "Maghreb" refers to the geopolitical sub-region located in:
(A) North Africa
(B) East Africa
(C) West Africa
(D) Southern Africa

83. Read the given assertion and reason and select the correct option.
Assertion (A): Central Asia's geopolitical value increased significantly post-9/11.
Reason (R): The US required military bases and logistical routes for operations in Afghanistan.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

84. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the geostrategic setting of the Middle East.
(A) It acts as a bridge between three continents.
(B) It holds vast hydrocarbon reserves.
(C) It encompasses critical maritime chokepoints.
(D) It contains the world's largest proven freshwater lakes.

85. Match the geopolitical region in List I with its defining geographical feature in List II.
List I: (Geopolitical Region)
P. Sahel
Q. Levant
R. Anatolia
S. Steppe
List II: (Geographical Feature)
1. Eastern Mediterranean shores
2. Transition zone south of the Sahara
3. Vast grasslands in Central Asia
4. Peninsula constituting modern-day Turkey
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

86. Which extra-regional power has historically pursued a "warm water port" strategy affecting West and Central Asia?
(A) Great Britain
(B) Russia
(C) China
(D) France

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(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

106. In Central Asia, what term describes the phenomenon where leaders maintain power through informal networks of loyalty and resource distribution?
(A) Neopatrimonialism
(B) Liberal democracy
(C) Socialism
(D) Federalism

107. Consider the following factors impeding democratization in West Asia:
1. Strong monarchical traditions
2. Geopolitical interventions
3. Weak democratic institutions
4. Homogeneous populations without identity politics

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 4
(B) 2, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 3 and 4
(D) 1, 2 and 3

108. The concept of "Kaza" or tribal councils resolving disputes implies a challenge to which aspect of state-building?
(A) The negotiation of regional free trade agreements.
(B) The state's monopoly on legitimate violence and justice.
(C) The expansion of national internet and digital connectivity.
(D) The domestic regulation of national currency valuation.

109. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: The Arab Spring successfully led to consolidated democracies across the entire Middle East.
Statement II: Tunisia is widely considered the only partial democratic success story of the early Arab Spring.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

110. A competency-based analysis of African state-building reveals that strong institutions require:
(A) A complete reliance on charismatic and populist leaders.
(B) The regular occurrence of domestic military coups.
(C) The maintenance of a single-party political dominance.
(D) A depoliticized bureaucracy and the rule of law.

111. Which term describes a regime where opposition parties exist but the electoral playing field is heavily skewed in favor of the ruling party?
(A) Competitive Authoritarianism
(B) Totalitarianism
(C) Direct Democracy
(D) Theocracy

112. The political regime of post-2003 Iraq was constitutionally designed as a:
(A) Sunni absolute monarchy
(B) Federal parliamentary republic
(C) Military dictatorship
(D) Socialist single-party state

113. What is the fundamental characteristic of an "Islamic Republic" like Iran?
(A) The implementation of an absolute separation of religion and state.
(B) Laws and governance must align with Sharia overseen by clerics.
(C) Sovereignty resides solely in the person of a hereditary monarch.
(D) The banning of all forms of religious practice within the nation.

114. Identify the correct pair regarding political leadership transitions.
(A) Hosni Mubarak - Ousted following popular uprisings.
(B) Muammar Gaddafi - Managed a peaceful democratic transition.
(C) Saddam Hussein - Removed by a domestic popular national vote.
(D) Robert Mugabe - Voluntarily retired after serving one term.

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115. Consider the following regarding the political regimes in Central Asia post-independence:
1. Dominance of strong executives/presidents
2. Weak legislative branches
3. High frequency of military coups
4. Suppression of opposition media
5. State control over major economic sectors

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3, 4 and 5
(B) 2, 3, 4 and 5
(C) 1, 2, 4 and 5
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

116. Which of the following regimes is considered a constitutional monarchy?
(A) Saudi Arabia
(B) Syria
(C) Yemen
(D) Jordan

117. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: Sub-Saharan Africa has seen a complete eradication of military coups in the 21st century.
Statement II: Recent years have witnessed a resurgence of military takeovers in the Sahel region.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

118. The "Velayat-e Faqih" (Guardianship of the Islamic Jurist) concept is the foundation of which state's regime?
(A) Saudi Arabia
(B) Iran
(C) Turkey
(D) Egypt

119. A defining feature of totalitarianism, distinct from standard authoritarianism, is:
(A) The tolerance of an apolitical civil society.
(B) The holding of regular multi-party elections.
(C) The systematic decentralization of state power.
(D) An ideology aiming to control all aspects of life.

120. The concept of "guided democracy" or sovereign democracy is often used by regimes to justify:
(A) Restrictions on liberal norms for regime stability.
(B) The total surrender of sovereignty to foreign powers.
(C) Implementing direct democracy via referendums only.
(D) Expanding unrestricted freedom of political speech.

121. Human security encompasses freedom from fear and freedom from:
(A) Taxation
(B) Religion
(C) Want
(D) Governance

122. Which non-state actor poses a severe transnational threat across the Maghreb and Sahel?
(A) Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM)
(B) Hezbollah
(C) Taliban
(D) FARC

123. Read the given assertion and reason and select the correct option.
Assertion (A): The proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) is a major security threat in Africa.
Reason (R): SALWs are cheap, easy to transport, and sustain protracted civil conflicts.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

124. Identify the incorrect statement regarding water security in West Asia.
(A) The Tigris and Euphrates rivers are shared by Turkey, Syria, and Iraq.
(B) Upstream dam construction does not affect downstream water supply.
(C) Water scarcity exacerbates existing geopolitical tensions.
(D) Climate change accelerates desertification in the region.

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125. Match the security threat in List I to the specific concept in List II.
List I: (Security Threat)
P. Food Insecurity
Q. Human Trafficking
R. Cyber Espionage
S. Separatist Insurgency
List II: (Concept)
1. State Security Threat
2. Human Security Threat (Economic/ Physical)
3. Transnational Crime Threat
4. Information Security Threat
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

126. "Securitization" occurs when:
(A) A sovereign state chooses to dismantle its military.
(B) International borders are opened for free global trade.
(C) A nation formally joins the United Nations body.
(D) An issue is framed as a critical existential threat.

127. Consider the following internal threats to state security in West Asia:
1. Youth unemployment
2. Sectarian divides
3. Legitimacy deficit of regimes
4. Extraterrestrial invasions
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 3
(B) 1, 2 and 4
(C) 2, 3 and 4
(D) 1, 3 and 4

128. What is the primary human security concern stemming from the drying of the Aral Sea?
(A) Increased maritime piracy.
(B) Public health crises caused by toxic dust storms.
(C) Submarine warfare operations.
(D) National cyber attacks.

129. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: External debts and structural adjustment programs can negatively impact human security by cutting social spending.
Statement II: All African states are completely debt-free today.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

130. Read the following and select the correct chronological order of when these militant groups reached their peak global threat profile.
I. Al-Qaeda
II. ISIS (Daesh)
III. PLO (Militant phase)
IV. Boko Haram
(A) III, I, IV, II
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) III, IV, I, II
(D) IV, III, II, I

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131. The term "Proxy War" is most accurately applied to the contemporary conflict in:
(A) South Africa (ANC vs. IFP political rivalry)
(B) Kazakhstan (The recent Almaty protest events)
(C) Yemen (Saudi Arabia vs. Iran regional influence)
(D) Egypt (The Muslim Brotherhood vs. the Military)

132. What is the role of extra-regional powers in the Syrian civil war?
(A) A policy of total regional disinterest and withdrawal.
(B) Exclusive use of soft power and humanitarian aid.
(C) The facilitation of an immediate successful mediation.
(D) Active support provided to opposing internal factions.

133. Which regional conflict is characterized by the dispute over the status of Western Sahara?
(A) Ethiopia and Eritrea
(B) Sudan and South Sudan
(C) Morocco and the Polisario Front
(D) Algeria and Tunisia

(D) British

172. "Indirect Rule" as a colonial administrative policy in Africa is most heavily associated with:
(A) King Leopold II (Belgium)
(B) Lord Lugard (Britain)
(C) Charles de Gaulle (France)
(D) Otto von Bismarck (Germany)

173. What was a major consequence of the Sykes-Picot agreement?
(A) The immediate independence for all Arab states.
(B) The creation of a single unified pan-Arab state.
(C) The division of the Arab provinces into spheres of influence.
(D) The expulsion of all European powers from West Asia.

174. Identify the incorrect statement regarding nationalism in Africa.
(A) It was often fueled by the experience of African soldiers in WWII.
(B) Trade unions and student movements played crucial roles.
(C) It aimed to dismantle various forms of colonial exploitation.
(D) It was led by traditional tribal chiefs rather than educated elites.

175. Consider the following leaders of African independence movements:
1. Patrice Lumumba
2. Amílcar Cabral
3. Jomo Kenyatta
4. Leopold Senghor
5. Ho Chi Minh

Which of the above are associated with African nationalism?
(A) 1, 2, 3 and 4
(B) 2, 3, 4 and 5
(C) 1, 3, 4 and 5
(D) 1, 2, 4 and 5

176. The concept of "Negritude" was an ideological movement that sought to:
(A) Promote total assimilation into the dominant French culture.
(B) Celebrate and validate African culture and identity.
(C) Establish industrial capitalist economic zones in Africa.
(D) Encourage the mass migration of Africans to Europe.

177. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: The decolonization of Portuguese Africa (Angola, Mozambique) occurred relatively peacefully in the 1950s.
Statement II: These countries achieved independence only in the 1970s following protracted armed struggles.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

178. What was the central premise of the "Basmachi Movement" in Central Asia?
(A) An anti-Soviet and pro-Islamic resistance movement.
(B) A communist uprising directed against the Russian Tsar.
(C) A political push for full integration with China.
(D) A formal demand for the initiation of British colonization.

179. A significant barrier to nation-building in post-colonial Africa has been "Irredentism," which means:
(A) A policy of complete national isolationism.
(B) The abandonment of traditional agriculture.
(C) Territorial claims based on shared ethnic identity.
(D) Surrender of sovereignty to a global government.

180. The failure of the "United Arab Republic" (1958-1961) demonstrated the challenges of:
(A) Monarchical absolutism in the region.
(B) Communist ideology in West Asian states.
(C) Persistent regional water scarcity issues.
(D) Pan-Arabism overriding state sovereignties.

181. In Central Asia, the concept of "Mahalla" refers to:
(A) A centralized state military unit.
(B) A regional sovereign wealth fund.
(C) Traditional neighborhood local governance

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(A) It includes Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Qatar.
(B) Iraq and Yemen are full founding members.
(C) It was formed partly in response to the Iranian Revolution.
(D) It aims for economic and security cooperation.

145. Match the strategic initiative in List I with the proposing actor in List II.
List I: (Strategic Initiative)
P. Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)
Q. Build Back Better World (B3W)
R. Asia-Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC)
S. Eurasian Economic Union
List II: (Proposing Actor)
1. Russia
2. China
3. G7 / USA
4. India and Japan
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

146. What is the primary purpose of the African Development Bank (AfDB)?
(A) To spur sustainable economic development in member countries.
(B) To regulate and monitor various global currency market systems.
(C) To provide direct military financing for regional defense pacts.
(D) To manage the distribution of the global crude oil supply chain.

147. Consider the following objectives of strategic partnerships in West Asia:
1. Securing long-term energy supplies
2. Arms sales and defense cooperation
3. Combating transnational terrorism
4. Forcing immediate regime change in all states
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 4
(B) 2, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 2 and 3
(D) 1, 3 and 4

148. The term "South-South Cooperation" refers to:
(A) Trade initiatives exclusively between Antarctica and South America.
(B) Aid provided from Northern developed countries to the Southern states.
(C) Military alliances formed specifically against Northern interests.
(D) Collaboration among developing countries in the Global South.

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149. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: ECOWAS has occasionally intervened militarily to restore constitutional order in member states.
Statement II: ECOWAS stands for Economic Community of West African States.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

150. Which Central Asian country is not a member of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)?
(A) Kazakhstan
(B) Uzbekistan
(C) Belarus
(D) Kyrgyzstan

151. Globalization in Africa has arguably led to "brain drain," which means:
(A) The loss of various forms of traditional cultural knowledge.
(B) The gradual decline of national educational standards.
(C) A large-scale neurological disease epidemic.
(D) The emigration of skilled professionals to developed nations.

152. What is a "Maquiladora" equivalent phenomenon in North Africa due to globalization?
(A) Export processing zones established to attract foreign manufacturing.
(B) Traditional agricultural collectives managed by local farmers.
(C) Religious schools focused on traditional theological education.
(D) Sovereign wealth funds created for national resource management.

153. How has globalization affected the political economy of rentier states in West Asia?

190. What is "Zionism" fundamentally defined as in international politics?
(A) An economic theory regarding free trade.
(B) An anti-colonial movement in Africa.
(C) A pan-Islamic global solidarity movement.
(D) A nationalist ideology for a Jewish state.

191. Environmental degradation, such as desertification in the Sahel, primarily impacts:
(A) Human security regarding food and livelihoods.
(B) International and national cyber security.
(C) Global nuclear deterrence capabilities.
(D) Civil and military space exploration.

192. Which of the following is considered an external threat to state security in Africa?
(A) Domestic electoral violence
(B) Cross-border terrorist infiltration
(C) National high inflation rates
(D) Rapid urban expansion trends

193. The concept of "Responsibility to Protect" (R2P) challenges traditional notions of:
(A) Free trade
(B) Absolute state sovereignty
(C) Currency exchange
(D) Climate change

194. Identify the incorrect statement regarding internal threats in West Asia.
(A) Sectarianism is entirely absent in domestic politics.
(B) High youth unemployment drives political instability.
(C) Water scarcity exacerbates domestic tensions.
(D) Regime legitimacy deficits frequently spark protests.

195. Consider the following dimensions of human security:
1. Economic security
2. Food security
3. Health security
4. Environmental security
5. Guaranteed victory in foreign wars

Which of the above statement(s) represent standard human security dimensions?
(A) 1, 2, 3 and 5
(B) 1, 3, 4 and 5
(C) 1, 2, 3 and 4
(D) 2, 3, 4 and 5

196. The "Boko Haram" insurgency primarily threatens state and human security in:
(A) East Africa
(B) North Africa
(C) Southern Africa
(D) West Africa (Lake Chad Basin)

197. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: Transnational organized crime, such as drug and human trafficking, weakens state institutions through corruption.
Statement II: Such networks rarely operate across international borders.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

198. The conflict in Darfur, Sudan, was primarily driven by:
(A) The control over international maritime shipping lanes.
(B) Marginalization and resource competition.
(C) The discovery of massive domestic nuclear deposits.
(D) Political disagreements regarding national space policy.

199. What distinguishes a "fragile state" from a strong state in the context of security?
(A) A fragile state possesses a larger nuclear arsenal.
(B) A fragile state maintains a rigid constitution.
(C) A fragile state isolates itself from the UN.
(D) A fragile state cannot provide basic security.

200. "Sectarianism" in West Asia is often weaponized to:
(A) Advance the geopolitical interests of rival powers.
(B) Promote the expansion of secular democracy.
(C) Reduce national defense and military spending.
(D) Promote various global disarmament initiatives.

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Reason (R): Africa possesses vast reserves of critical minerals necessary for green technology and global supply chains.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

164. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the geopolitics of Central Asia.
(A) It is rich in hydrocarbon resources.
(B) It acts as a buffer and transit zone between Russia and China.
(C) It is a focal point of the Belt and Road Initiative.
(D) It enjoys unimpeded access to the world's major oceans.

165. Match the country in List I with its geopolitical sub-region in List II.
List I: (Country)
P. Tajikistan
Q. Oman
R. Mali
S. Angola
List II: (Geopolitical Sub-region)
1. Central Asia
2. Southern Africa
3. Sahel / West Africa
4. Arabian Peninsula
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(C) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

166. The "Pivot to Asia" strategy by the US had implications for West Asia primarily by:
(A) Increasing the total US military footprint in the Gulf.
(B) Shifting US strategic focus away from the Middle East.
(C) Promoting a new colonial empire on the African continent.
(D) Leading to the formal annexation of various Central Asian states.

167. Consider the following geographic features relevant to geostrategy:
1. The Strait of Malacca
2. The Bab el-Mandeb
3. The Strait of Hormuz
4. The Bosporus
Which of the following are located in or immediately adjacent to the Middle East/North Africa region?
(A) 1, 2 and 3
(B) 1, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 2 and 4
(D) 2, 3 and 4

168. A major geopolitical consequence of the discovery of large offshore gas fields in the Eastern Mediterranean has been:
(A) Increased maritime boundary disputes among regional states.
(B) The immediate and complete political unification of Cyprus.
(C) The ecological drying up of the entire Suez Canal system.
(D) Total energy independence for all sovereign African nations.

169. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: Sub-Saharan Africa's geopolitics is unaffected by the presence of non-state armed actors.
Statement II: The spread of insurgency in the Sahel challenges both regional stability and international security interests.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

170. Which colonial power previously controlled the territory that is now the Democratic Republic of Congo?
(A) Belgium
(B) France
(C) Britain
(D) Portugal

171. The "Balfour Declaration" of 1917 was issued by which government?
(A) French
(B) Ottoman
(C) American

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134. Identify the correct pair regarding extra-regional power military bases in Africa.
(A) Russia - Naval base in South Africa
(B) USA - Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti
(C) China - Airbase in Nigeria
(D) India - Submarine base in Egypt

135. Consider the following reasons for extra-regional intervention in West Asia:
1. Securing energy resources
2. Combating terrorism
3. Protecting allied states (e.g., Israel)
4. Countering rival great powers
5. Establishing colonial empires in the 21st century

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3, 4 and 5
(B) 2, 3, 4 and 5
(C) 1, 2, 4 and 5
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

136. The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) is a source of regional tension primarily between Ethiopia and:
(A) Egypt and Sudan
(B) Kenya and Somalia
(C) Uganda and Rwanda
(D) Djibouti and Eritrea

137. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: The African Union has a mechanism for regional conflict resolution known as the Peace and Security Council.
Statement II: The African Union has successfully prevented all civil wars in Africa since its inception.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

138. The conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh primarily involved which two states?
(A) Armenia and Azerbaijan
(B) Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan
(C) Iran and Iraq
(D) Georgia and Russia

139. Which concept explains the geopolitical competition between regional powers like Saudi Arabia and Iran?
(A) Democratic peace
(B) Complex interdependence
(C) Isolationism
(D) Hegemonic rivalry

140. How does the "resource curse" fuel regional conflict?
(A) By generating wealth that is equitably distributed across all sectors.
(B) By incentivizing rebels to capture lucrative resource sites.
(C) By encouraging states to transition rapidly toward green energy usage.
(D) By significantly lowering the global market price of various commodities.

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141. The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) focuses heavily on the "Three Evils". What are they?
(A) Poverty, Disease, Illiteracy
(B) Capitalism, Imperialism, Colonialism
(C) Terrorism, Separatism, Extremism
(D) Corruption, Nepotism, Inefficiency

142. The "Connect Central Asia" policy is an initiative by which country?
(A) United States
(B) China
(C) Russia
(D) India

143. Read the given assertion and reason and select the correct option.
Assertion (A): Inter-regional trade within Africa has historically been very low compared to Europe or Asia.
Reason (R): Colonial infrastructure was designed to export raw materials overseas, not to connect African nations.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

144. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

structures.
(D) An international regional trade agreement.

182. Why is "Civil Society" often weak in authoritarian West Asian regimes?
(A) Citizens have no inherent interest in national politics.
(B) The state co-opts or suppresses independent associations.
(C) Excessive foreign funding makes these groups illegal.
(D) High literacy rates make these organizations obsolete.

183. Read the given assertion and reason and select the correct option.
Assertion (A): Democratization in West Asia faces structural hurdles.
Reason (R): Deeply entrenched rentier state structures reduce the citizens' demand for political accountability.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

184. Identify the correct pair connecting a concept to state-building.
(A) Patrimonialism - Power flows from leaders, blurring private domains.
(B) Kleptocracy - Rule implemented by a religious or clerical elite.
(C) Federalism - The total centralization of all national state power.
(D) Meritocracy - Rule based solely on hereditary or royal descent.

185. Match the concept in List I with its definition regarding post-independence developments in List II.
List I: (Concept)
P. Balkanization
Q. Consociationalism
R. Clientelism
S. Secessionism
List II: (Definition)
1. Exchange of goods/services for political support
2. Fragmentation of a state into smaller, often hostile entities
3. Withdrawing formally from an existing state
4. Power-sharing in deeply divided societies
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

186. Which Middle Eastern country is legally defined as a state where the military acts as the guardian of secularism, though this role has diminished recently?
(A) Turkey
(B) Iran
(C) Saudi Arabia
(D) Oman

187. Consider the following features of a Rentier State:
1. Low taxation on citizens
2. High dependence on external rent (e.g., oil exports)
3. Strong democratic accountability
4. A large public sector employing citizens
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 3
(B) 2, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 3 and 4
(D) 1, 2 and 4

188. Which political phenomenon describes the military overthrowing a civilian government?
(A) Referendum
(B) Coup d'état
(C) Impeachment
(D) Vote of no confidence

189. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: The "Third Wave of Democratization" in the late 20th century transformed all Central Asian states into consolidated democracies.
Statement II: Authoritarian resilience remains strong in Central Asia.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

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(D) Complex Interdependence

213. Read the given assertion and reason and select the correct option.
Assertion (A): Globalization has facilitated the rapid spread of democratic ideas in authoritarian states.
Reason (R): The proliferation of the internet and social media bypasses traditional state-controlled information monopolies.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

214. Identify the incorrect statement regarding globalization's impact on Africa.
(A) It has increased access to global communication technologies.
(B) It has made African economies entirely immune to global recessions.
(C) It accelerates urbanization.
(D) It integrates local resources into global production chains.

215. What is "Glocalization"?
(A) The banning of all foreign products and services.
(B) The establishment of a completely closed economy.
(C) The pursuit of total global military conquest.
(D) The adaptation of global ideas to local contexts.

216. How has globalization affected transnational terrorism in West and Central Asia?
(A) It provides global financing and cyber tools.
(B) It has restricted terrorists to isolated rural areas.
(C) It has automatically dismantled all existing terror cells.
(D) It has replaced all militant ideologies with capitalism.

217. Consider the following effects of globalization on Central Asia:
1. Increased labor migration to Russia
2. Introduction of Western NGOs
3. Penetration of Chinese capital
4. Resurgence of the Soviet political system

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 4
(B) 2, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 2 and 3
(D) 1, 3 and 4

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218. The "Resource Curse" in a globalized world means that resource-rich developing nations often experience:
(A) Worse development than resource-poor nations.
(B) Rapid global technological and digital dominance.
(C) Successful and perfect democratic state transitions.
(D) Complete immunity from the effects of climate change.

219. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: Globalization distributes its economic benefits equally among all populations within a developing nation.
Statement II: Globalization often exacerbates urban-rural divides in emerging economies.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

220. The proliferation of multi-national corporations (MNCs) in the African mining sector is an outcome of:
(A) National isolationism
(B) Neoliberal globalization
(C) Ujamaa socialism
(D) Feudalism

221. Which global phenomenon represents a major external shock to the rentier economies of West Asia?
(A) The local discovery of ancient historical ruins.
(B) The rapid expansion of the northern Sahara desert.
(C) The global shift toward renewable energy technology.
(D) Domestic stabilization of various local currencies.

201. Which external power launched the 2003 invasion of Iraq?
(A) Russia
(B) China
(C) United States
(D) France

202. The role of the UN in regional conflicts like Western Sahara primarily involves:
(A) Peacekeeping and attempting to organize referendums.
(B) Conducting direct military conquest of territories.
(C) Extracting national natural resources for profit.
(D) Imposing new colonial administrations on states.

203. Which framework governs the sharing of Nile waters, historically favoring Egypt, but currently contested by upstream nations?
(A) The Sykes-Picot Agreement
(B) The Camp David Accords
(C) The Abraham Accords
(D) The 1929 and 1959 Nile Water Agreements

204. Identify the correct pair regarding conflicts.
(A) Tigray conflict - South Africa
(B) Houthi rebellion - Yemen
(C) Al-Shabaab - Morocco
(D) Hamas - Central Asia

205. The "Caspian Sea legal status" dispute was largely resolved in 2018. It was necessary to determine:
(A) Future military alliances.
(B) Regional religious jurisdiction.
(C) The division of seabed resources.
(D) Global climate change quotas.

206. Extra-regional powers use "arms sales" to West Asia primarily to:
(A) Guarantee universal and permanent peace.
(B) Foster absolute regional disarmament.
(C) Promote domestic agrarian reform policies.
(D) Maintain balance and secure alliances.

207. Consider the following regarding the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA):
1. It aims to boost intra-African trade.
2. It requires abolishing all national currencies immediately.
3. It seeks to eliminate tariffs on most goods.
4. It is an initiative under the African Union.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3 and 4
(B) 1, 2 and 3
(C) 2, 3 and 4
(D) 1, 2 and 4

208. The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in Africa has been criticized for potentially causing:
(A) Rapid democratization
(B) Debt trap diplomacy
(C) Immediate environmental healing
(D) Total African isolationism

209. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: Strategic partnerships only involve economic aid without any security dimensions.
Statement II: Strategic partnerships between global powers and regional states often encompass defense, trade, and diplomatic support.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

210. Which Central Asian nation has pursued a foreign policy of "Permanent Neutrality" recognized by the UN?
(A) Turkmenistan
(B) Kazakhstan
(C) Uzbekistan
(D) Tajikistan

211. Globalization impacts cultural identity in West Asia by:
(A) Effectively erasing all forms of Islam.
(B) Stopping all forms of global migration.
(C) Creating tension with traditional values.
(D) Forcing all citizens to speak only English.

212. Which term describes the integration of West Asian oil economies into the global market?
(A) Autarky
(B) Mercantilism
(C) Isolationism

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(A) It has isolated them from various global market price fluctuations.
(B) It has eliminated the national requirement to export crude oil.
(C) It necessitates economic diversification due to energy shifts.
(D) It has caused a return to traditional pure agrarian economies.

154. Identify the correct pair regarding the impact of globalization.
(A) Glocalization - Adapting global products to local cultural contexts.
(B) Cultural Homogenization - The preservation of all local indigenous languages.
(C) Economic Liberalization - The state maintaining a monopoly over all industries.
(D) Protectionism - The adoption of unrestricted and free international trade.

155. Consider the following impacts of globalization on Central Asia:
1. Integration into global energy markets
2. Exposure to global financial crises
3. Spread of transnational radical ideologies via the internet
4. Complete homogenization of local cultures
5. Increased foreign direct investment in extractive industries

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3, 4 and 5
(B) 2, 3, 4 and 5
(C) 1, 2, 4 and 5
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 5

156. The digital divide in Africa as a consequence of globalization primarily exacerbates:
(A) Overpopulation
(B) Socio-economic inequalities
(C) Deforestation
(D) Religious extremism

157. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: Globalization has diminished the absolute sovereignty of states in West Asia due to international economic dependencies.
Statement II: States in West Asia have completely lost control over their national borders.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

158. The concept of "Neo-imperialism" suggests that globalization allows:
(A) Direct military conquest by major global powers.
(B) Equal wealth distribution across all nations.
(C) The total collapse of the capitalist system.
(D) Economic domination by corporations and core nations.

159. Which West Asian city is considered a prime example of a globalized hub driven by transit trade, finance, and tourism?
(A) Dubai
(B) Sana'a
(C) Damascus
(D) Aden

160. How do structural adjustment programs (SAPs) mandated by global financial institutions often affect state capacity in Africa?
(A) They consistently double the size of the national civil service.
(B) They mandate privatization, which may weaken social safety nets.
(C) They promote the adoption of import substitution industrialization.
(D) They encourage regional states to print unlimited national currency.

161. The "Heartland" in Mackinder's theory was deemed impregnable to:
(A) Land forces
(B) Sea power
(C) Air power
(D) Nuclear weapons

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162. Which strategic waterway connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea?
(A) Suez Canal
(B) Panama Canal
(C) Strait of Gibraltar
(D) Bosphorus Strait

163. Read the given assertion and reason and select the correct option.
Assertion (A): The geopolitical importance of Africa is increasing in the 21st century.

222. Diaspora populations contribute to their home countries' development primarily through:
(A) Conducting military invasions
(B) Demanding colonial rule
(C) Revoking national citizenship
(D) Financial and skill transfers

223. What role does the International Monetary Fund (IMF) typically play in developing African nations facing balance of payment crises?
(A) It provides loans conditional on economic reform.
(B) It permanently annexes the territory of the country.
(C) It installs a new hereditary monarch in the state.
(D) It shuts down all national internet and data access.

224. Identify the correct pair connecting globalization to a specific regional impact.
(A) Global supply chains - Complete self-sufficiency of local villages
(B) Internet connectivity - Coordination of the Arab Spring protests
(C) Cultural imperialism - Revival of isolated, undiscovered tribes
(D) Foreign Direct Investment - Banning of all international trade

225. "Demographic dividend" in Africa can only be realized in a globalized economy if there is sufficient investment in:
(A) Expanding national desertification.
(B) Human capital and job creation.
(C) Increasing state media censorship.
(D) Restricting all international trade.

226. How does globalization challenge state sovereignty in the realm of human rights?
(A) Through international pressure to adhere to norms.
(B) By completely abolishing all forms of international law.
(C) By encouraging sovereign states to close their borders.
(D) By promoting total authoritarianism on a global scale.

227. Consider the following mechanisms through which extra-regional powers influence the Middle East:
1. Economic sanctions
2. Military aid and bases
3. Diplomatic vetoes in the UN Security Council
4. Relocating their entire populations to the region

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 4
(B) 2, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 2 and 3
(D) 1, 3 and 4

228. The concept of "Soft Power" in strategic partnerships refers to:
(A) Using nuclear weapons
(B) Coercive economic sanctions
(C) Naval blockades
(D) Influencing others through culture, political values, and foreign policies

229. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: Free trade zones (FTZs) are established to attract foreign investment by offering tax and customs exemptions.
Statement II: FTZs completely isolate the host country from the global economy.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

230. A key strategic interest of China in Central Asia is:
(A) Establishing a regional communist bloc.
(B) Securing overland energy transit routes.
(C) Promoting universal political suffrage.
(D) Relocating its national capital city.

231. The "Horn of Africa" is highly geostrategic because it flanks:
(A) The Panama Canal system.
(B) The Strait of Magellan route.
(C) The Bering Strait passage.
(D) The Red Sea and Suez route.

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requirements of democratization. The resistance from entrenched elites, who perceive democratic transitions as threats to their traditional authority, further complicates this landscape. Consequently, the synchronization of nation building, state building, and democratic consolidation remains highly precarious, as political stability must be carefully balanced with the establishment of representative institutions and the equitable distribution of political power.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

261. What is the primary focus of state building as described in the passage?
(A) Forging a cohesive and singular cultural identity among all citizens
(B) Eliminating all traditional cultural practices and religious beliefs
(C) Privatizing all public administrative structures and legal institutions
(D) Creating functional institutional capacities and legal frameworks

262. How does the passage define the goal of nation building?
(A) Expanding national borders through aggressive military conquest
(B) Forging a cohesive national identity from diversity
(C) Establishing exclusive trade agreements with neighboring states
(D) Centralizing economic power within a single political faction

263. Which factor is mentioned as a hindrance to establishing democratic norms?
(A) The equitable distribution of political and administrative power
(B) The complete absence of entrenched and influential political elites
(C) Weak foundations and competing factional loyalties
(D) Overly cohesive and stable national identities and cultures

264. How can rapid state building directly contradict democratization?
(A) By decentralizing administrative and executive power too quickly
(B) By focusing exclusively on cultural homogenization and unity
(C) By empowering too many diverse grassroots social organizations
(D) By centralizing power, restricting participatory requirements

265. Why do entrenched elites often resist democratic transitions?
(A) Because they see threats to their traditional authority
(B) Because they desire a rapid shift to decentralized governance models
(C) Because they wish to eliminate all forms of political stability
(D) Because they want to accelerate institutional and legal transparency

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

An examination of post-independence developments highlights a diverse array of political regimes that have emerged in newly sovereign territories. The evolutionary path of these regimes demonstrates how historical legacies and immediate governance demands shape political authority. In many post-independence scenarios, initial attempts to establish representative political regimes were swiftly replaced by centralized or authoritarian structures. This shift often occurred as leaders prioritized rapid modernization and political stability over pluralistic governance. The nature of these political regimes heavily influenced the trajectory of post-independence developments, dictating the extent of civil liberties, economic centralization, and institutional autonomy. Scholars observe that the consolidation of specific political regimes frequently depended on the military's role or the dominance of a single political party claiming exclusive legitimacy derived from the independence struggle. Consequently, the variation in political regimes directly accounts for the differing levels of administrative efficiency and public accountability across regions. Analyzing these post-independence developments is crucial for understanding how the initial constitutional frameworks were either adapted, subverted, or completely dismantled in response to internal pressures and the overarching necessity of maintaining regime survival.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

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241. Which concept highlights the vulnerability of states heavily reliant on a single primary commodity export in a globalized market?
(A) Diversification
(B) Dutch Disease
(C) Import Substitution
(D) Comparative Advantage

242. How does climate change act as a "threat multiplier" in West Asia and Africa?
(A) It exacerbates existing resource scarcities.
(B) It reduces the cost of military hardware.
(C) It unifies all regional religious sects.
(D) It creates new national oil reserves.

243. The "Color Revolutions" in post-Soviet spaces, including Central Asia, primarily demanded:
(A) A return to the Stalinism era.
(B) Unification with the United States.
(C) Electoral integrity and democratization.
(D) The banning of all political parties.

244. Identify the correct pair regarding extra-regional involvement.
(A) AFRICOM - Chinese military command for Africa.
(B) NATO - An alliance exclusively composed of African states.
(C) BRICS - A Western military alliance organization.
(D) CENTCOM - US military command for the region.

245. Consider the following challenges to regional cooperation in the Middle East:
1. Deep-seated mistrust among rival states
2. Disparities in economic wealth
3. Differing political systems
4. A shared, unified currency

Which of the above statement(s) represent(s) realistic challenges?
(A) 1, 2 and 4
(B) 2, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 2 and 3
(D) 1, 3 and 4

246. The presence of foreign mercenaries in African conflicts undermines:
(A) Global shipping routes.
(B) The state's monopoly on legitimate violence.
(C) The global stock market.
(D) Outer space treaties.

247. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: Strategic partnerships are always legally binding mutual defense treaties.
Statement II: Strategic partnerships are flexible frameworks for cooperation on shared interests without formal treaty obligations.
(A) Both Statement I and II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

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248. The phrase "Scramble for Africa" refers to:
(A) The late 19th-century European colonization.
(B) The modern rush to export agricultural goods.
(C) The post-independence rush for democracy.
(D) A pan-African regional sporting event.

249. Economic globalization has impacted African agriculture by:
(A) Successfully eliminating all poverty among farmers.
(B) Banning the use of modern technology in farming.
(C) Shifting focus to export-oriented cash crops.
(D) Returning all land to communal tribal ownership.

250. In the context of globalization, what is the significance of the "Washington Consensus" for developing regions?
(A) It pushed for free-market policies and reform.
(B) It promoted state-led heavy industrialization.
(C) It advocated for absolute autarky and isolation.
(D) It demanded the immediate adoption of communism.

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In examining the central dynamics of contemporary international relations, the geopolitical and geostrategic setting of emerging regions presents a highly complex scenario.

neighboring nations

272. What does human security primarily prioritize according to the text?
(A) The expansion of national borders and large military stockpiles
(B) Safety, economic well-being, and social stability
(C) The strict enforcement of absolute and centralized authoritarian governance
(D) The rapid accumulation of state-owned corporate and financial wealth

273. What is the immediate consequence when state security is undermined by threats?
(A) An exponential and sudden increase in national economic prosperity
(B) Neighboring entities immediately offer unconditional and direct support
(C) Human security automatically replaces all state security protocols
(D) The state's capacity to provide human security diminishes

274. How do profound deficits in human security impact the state?
(A) They catalyze internal threats via localized grievances
(B) They foster an environment of complete and total political complacency
(C) They eliminate the need for traditional and formal defense paradigms
(D) They automatically resolve all cross-border territorial disputes

275. What must policymakers recognize to achieve comprehensive stability?
(A) That human security is irrelevant to traditional and modern defense paradigms
(B) That focusing solely on external threats guarantees internal social harmony
(C) The link between state protection and individual livelihoods
(D) That state security can only be achieved by ignoring chronic social poverty

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The persistence of regional conflicts and issues is frequently exacerbated by the active role of extra-regional powers seeking to maximize their strategic influence. A case review of localized disputes reveals that what may initially begin as a bilateral issue over resources or borders often escalates into a protracted regional conflict. This escalation is intricately tied to the interventionist role of extra-regional powers, which provide military support, diplomatic backing, or financial aid to proxy factions. These external actors engage in regional conflicts not necessarily to achieve local resolution, but to balance against rival global powers and secure access to strategic assets. Consequently, the presence of extra-regional powers fundamentally alters the dynamics of regional conflicts and issues, making them highly intractable and resistant to traditional diplomatic mediation. Local actors often leverage the involvement of extra-regional powers to strengthen their negotiating positions, thereby deepening the complexity of the disputes. The interplay between localized regional issues and the broader geostrategic objectives of extra-regional powers ensures that peace processes remain fragile, as any potential resolution must satisfy both the immediate regional stakeholders and the overarching interests of external sponsors.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

276. What frequently exacerbates the persistence of regional conflicts and issues?
(A) Extra-regional powers maximizing strategic influence
(B) The rapid and sudden depletion of local agricultural resources
(C) The total disengagement of global powers from localized regional disputes
(D) The voluntary disarmament of all local proxy factions

277. Why do extra-regional powers typically engage in regional conflicts?
(A) Exclusively to achieve a peaceful and lasting local resolution
(B) To permanently relinquish their own global and regional influence
(C) To ensure that borders remain exactly as they were historically drawn
(D) To balance rivals and secure strategic assets

278. How does the presence of extra-regional powers alter the dynamics of regional conflicts?
(A) It simplifies the conflict and leads to rapid

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groups against colonial domination, eventually culminating in organized independence movements. These movements were characterized by a complex interplay of strategic negotiations and grassroots mobilization, fundamentally reshaping the political consciousness of the populace. However, the transition from anti-colonial struggle to sovereign statehood carried inherent challenges. The ideological unity achieved during the independence movements often faced severe strain once the primary objective of decolonization was realized. Leaders of these movements were subsequently tasked with transforming nationalist fervor into viable governance structures. The enduring legacy of colonialism continued to influence these early state-building efforts, as the newly independent nations had to navigate the deep socio-economic inequalities inherited from the colonial era while striving to consolidate their hard-won political sovereignty.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

256. What was the profound effect of colonial administrative structures on pre-existing socio-political orders?
(A) They fostered immediate and widespread technological advancements
(B) They disrupted orders and left institutional fragmentation
(C) They seamlessly integrated pre-colonial legal and social traditions
(D) They guaranteed absolute social equality among indigenous groups

257. According to the passage, what role did nationalism play during the colonial period?
(A) It acted as a tool to promote administrative colonial policies
(B) It created deep social divisions among indigenous populations
(C) It functioned primarily to encourage global economic integration
(D) It served as the ideological framework for unification

258. How were the organized independence movements characterized in the text?
(A) By strategic negotiations and grassroots mobilization
(B) By a sudden and entirely uncoordinated series of political events
(C) By an exclusive reliance on foreign military and economic interventions
(D) By the strict avoidance of political consciousness among the populace

259. What frequently happened to ideological unity once the primary objective of decolonization was realized?
(A) It transformed into absolute institutional consensus
(B) It immediately resolved all domestic political disputes
(C) It often faced severe strain and inherent challenges
(D) It expanded to include former colonial administrators seamlessly

260. What socio-economic challenge did newly independent nations inherit from the colonial era?
(A) Deep socio-economic inequalities
(B) Perfectly balanced agricultural outputs
(C) Highly industrialized urban centers
(D) Complete immunity to global financial crises

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Following the achievement of sovereignty, emerging territories immediately confront the dual imperatives of nation building and state building, alongside significant challenges to democratization. A critical analysis of a transitional regime illustrates that state building focuses on the creation of functional institutional capacities, including administrative structures and legal frameworks necessary for effective governance. Simultaneously, nation building seeks to forge a cohesive national identity from a socially diverse population, aiming to establish psychological and cultural unity. However, these intertwined processes frequently encounter substantial challenges to democratization. Efforts to establish democratic norms are often hindered by weak institutional foundations and competing factional loyalties that undermine political pluralism. Furthermore, rapid state building can sometimes centralize power to such an extent that it directly contradicts the participatory

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284. How does a strategic partnership differ from basic regional trade?
(A) It embeds economic ties within a broader security consensus
(B) It strictly focuses on lowering tariffs without any diplomatic engagement
(C) It reduces the level of development cooperation between sovereign nations
(D) It makes states entirely dependent on extra-regional and global powers

285. What is the ultimate aim of linking regional trade, development cooperation, and strategic partnerships?
(A) To create vulnerability to external economic and political coercion
(B) To dismantle cohesive and functional institutional architectures
(C) To drive prosperity and collectively deter external coercion
(D) To promote intense competition and rivalry among participating states

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A critical assessment of contemporary socio-economic transformations requires analyzing the profound impact of globalisation on domestic structures. In various transitional economies, the impact of globalisation manifests as a double-edged sword, driving both unprecedented integration and severe localized disruptions. On one hand, globalisation facilitates the rapid influx of foreign direct investment, technological advancements, and integration into global financial markets, which collectively accelerate economic modernization. On the other hand, the impact of globalisation simultaneously exposes local industries to intense international competition, often resulting in the displacement of traditional economic sectors. This economic vulnerability is accompanied by significant socio-cultural shifts, as globalized media and consumption patterns challenge indigenous cultural norms. The impact of globalisation also heavily restricts the autonomous policy-making capacity of the state, as governments must increasingly align their domestic regulations with international market imperatives to attract capital. Consequently, state authorities are compelled to constantly devise mechanisms to harness the developmental benefits of global integration while actively mitigating the resulting socio-economic disparities and cultural frictions, making the management of globalisation a central challenge of modern governance.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

286. How does the passage describe the impact of globalisation in transitional economies?
(A) As a purely destructive force with no significant economic benefits
(B) As an entirely seamless process of cultural homogenization and unity
(C) As a phenomenon that exclusively protects traditional economic sectors
(D) A double-edged sword driving integration and disruptions

287. Which of the following is cited as a benefit of globalisation in the passage?
(A) The immediate elimination of all socio-cultural and regional shifts
(B) The protection of local industries from all international competition
(C) Influx of foreign investment and technological advancements
(D) The expansion of autonomous policy-making capacity of the state

288. What negative economic consequence of globalisation is highlighted in the text?
(A) The complete and total withdrawal of foreign direct investment
(B) Displacement of traditional sectors due to competition
(C) The isolation of global financial markets from transitional economies
(D) The rapid and sudden strengthening of indigenous cultural norms

289. How does globalisation affect the autonomous policy-making capacity of the state?
(A) It significantly expands state autonomy in global and regional markets
(B) It makes domestic regulations entirely irrelevant to international investors
(C) It encourages governments to completely ignore all capital attraction
(D) It restricts it by forcing alignment with market imperatives

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266. Why were initial attempts to establish representative regimes often replaced in post-independence scenarios?
(A) Because international organizations mandated the transition to autocracy
(B) Because leaders prioritized stability and modernization over pluralism
(C) Because the populace overwhelmingly and loudly rejected modernization
(D) Because all civil liberties were already firmly and legally established

267. What elements of a state are heavily influenced by the nature of its political regime, according to the text?
(A) Cultural traditions, artistic expressions, and geographic climate
(B) Civil liberties, economic centralization, and institutional autonomy
(C) Linguistic diversity, religious practices, and global population growth
(D) Climate change mitigation, biodiversity, and oceanic boundaries

268. Upon what did the consolidation of specific political regimes frequently depend?
(A) The military's role or single-party dominance
(B) The voluntary and peaceful dissolution of the central government
(C) Strict adherence to decentralized and regional municipal frameworks
(D) Random and unpredictable shifts in global economic policy

269. How did dominant political parties often claim exclusive legitimacy?
(A) By pointing to their complete lack of involvement in national history
(B) By appealing directly to former colonial and imperial administrators
(C) By citing their links to the independence struggle
(D) By abandoning all previous claims to national political sovereignty

270. What is a key reason for the variation in administrative efficiency across regions?
(A) The absolute and complete uniformity of post-independence developments
(B) The complete and total absence of historical colonial legacies
(C) The lack of internal pressures or demands on newly formed states
(D) Variation in established political regimes

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Contemporary regional analysis requires a comprehensive evaluation of both internal and external threats to state security and human security. In assessing a volatile geographic sector, it is evident that internal threats to state security often manifest as armed insurgencies, ethnic fragmentation, and deep-seated institutional corruption, which collectively erode government authority. Simultaneously, external threats emerge from territorial disputes, cross-border militant networks, and hostile diplomatic posturing by neighboring entities. These dual vectors of instability severely compromise human security, which prioritizes the physical safety, economic well-being, and social stability of individuals within the state. When state security is undermined by either internal or external threats, the state's capacity to provide fundamental human security diminishes drastically, leading to widespread displacement and resource scarcity. Conversely, profound deficits in human security, such as chronic poverty and social marginalization, frequently catalyze internal threats to state security by generating localized grievances. Therefore, policymakers must recognize the inextricable link between the protection of state apparatuses and the safeguarding of individual livelihoods, acknowledging that comprehensive stability requires addressing both traditional defense paradigms and the broader dimensions of human security simultaneously.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

271. Which of the following is identified in the passage as a manifestation of internal threats to state security?
(A) Hostile diplomatic posturing between neighboring and distant nations
(B) Cross-border militant networks and unauthorized external intrusions
(C) Armed insurgencies and institutional corruption
(D) Territorial disputes regarding borders with

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232. Which conflict demonstrates a "frozen conflict" where active fighting has ceased but no political resolution exists, affecting regional security?
(A) Western Sahara
(B) WWII
(C) The Cold War
(D) The American Civil War

233. Read the given assertion and reason and select the correct option.
Assertion (A): Nation-building in many West Asian states has been problematic.
Reason (R): State boundaries often crosscut ethnic, tribal, and religious lines, leading to competing loyalties.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

234. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the political economy of Central Asia.
(A) The region is an economic powerhouse of global high-tech manufacturing.
(B) Kazakhstan relies heavily on oil and uranium exports.
(C) Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have significant hydropower potential.
(D) Remittances form a significant part of the GDP for some states.

235. Match the term in List I with its definition regarding security in List II.
List I: (Term)
P. Insurgency
Q. Terrorism
R. Proxy War
S. Peacekeeping
List II: (Definition)
1. Armed rebellion against a constituted authority
2. Conflict instigated by major powers that do not themselves participate directly
3. Violence against non-combatants for political aims
4. UN deployment to maintain peace
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4

236. What is the impact of "Brain Drain" on African democratization?
(A) It strengthens the domestic civil society.
(B) It depletes the middle class needed for reform.
(C) It increases the national military budget.
(D) It immediately stabilizes the national currency.

237. Consider the following regarding the African Union (AU):
1. It replaced the OAU.
2. It embraces the principle of non-indifference (right to intervene).
3. It has its headquarters in Addis Ababa.
4. It only allows English as a working language.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2 and 4
(B) 2, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 2 and 3
(D) 1, 3 and 4

238. "Pan-Arabism" reached its peak influence under the leadership of:
(A) Anwar Sadat
(B) King Faisal
(C) Yasser Arafat
(D) Gamal Abdel Nasser

239. Read the following statements and select the correct option.
Statement I: Oil revenues in the Middle East have historically hindered rapid democratization.
Statement II: Oil wealth prevents states from funding security apparatuses.
(A) Both Statement I and II are true
(B) Both Statement I and II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

240. The transition from Apartheid to a multi-racial democracy in South Africa is an example of:
(A) An armed secession event.
(B) Negotiated democratic transition.
(C) A standard military coup.
(D) Rentier state politics.

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and easy mediation
(B) It makes conflicts intractable and resistant to mediation
(C) It causes local actors to instantly abandon their original grievances
(D) It limits the disputes to purely economic and trade negotiations

279. How do local actors interact with the involvement of extra-regional powers?
(A) They consistently reject any form of external or foreign diplomatic backing
(B) They use external involvement to systematically weaken their own factions
(C) They leverage involvement to strengthen negotiations
(D) They ignore the external actors to focus on bilateral local resolutions

280. Why do peace processes in these environments remain fragile?
(A) Because external sponsors are entirely indifferent to the political outcomes
(B) Because local actors refuse to engage in any form of formal negotiation
(C) Because regional conflicts never involve physical and fixed boundaries
(D) Resolutions must satisfy both regional and external interests

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In an effort to mitigate economic vulnerabilities and enhance collective resilience, emerging regions increasingly emphasize regional trade, development cooperation, and strategic partnership. An analysis of recent economic frameworks indicates that regional trade acts as a foundational mechanism for integrating localized markets, thereby reducing dependency on fluctuating global supply chains. However, the success of regional trade initiatives is heavily contingent upon robust development cooperation among participating states. Development cooperation facilitates the sharing of technological expertise, infrastructural investments, and capacity-building resources necessary to harmonize regulatory standards across borders. Furthermore, to safeguard these economic gains against geopolitical uncertainties, states are formalizing their relationships through the establishment of strategic partnerships. A strategic partnership elevates the relationship beyond mere economic transactions, embedding regional trade and development cooperation within a broader security and diplomatic consensus. This multifaceted approach ensures that mutual economic growth is reinforced by shared strategic objectives. By systematically linking regional trade, development cooperation, and strategic partnerships, governments aim to create a cohesive institutional architecture capable of driving sustainable prosperity while collectively deterring external economic or political coercion in a highly competitive international environment.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

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281. What is the primary benefit of regional trade mentioned in the passage?
(A) It acts as a mechanism for integrating localized markets
(B) It increases dependency on fluctuating and unstable global supply chains
(C) It completely isolates a region from global diplomatic and trade affairs
(D) It restricts technological sharing among all participating member states

282. What role does development cooperation play in regional trade initiatives?
(A) It limits infrastructural investments to a single and dominant regional state
(B) It shares expertise and resources to harmonize standards
(C) It creates regulatory discrepancies across borders intentionally
(D) It discourages the capacity-building required for local market growth

283. Why are states formalizing their relationships through strategic partnerships?
(A) To dissolve previously established regional trade agreements
(B) To safeguard economic gains against geopolitical uncertainties
(C) To prevent the harmonization of regulatory standards
(D) To limit their interactions exclusively to economic transactions

The spatial positioning of these territories fundamentally dictates their strategic vulnerability and diplomatic leverage. Analysts observing specific regional contexts frequently note that the geographical layout inherently shapes both internal cohesion and external security engagements. The geostrategic setting is not merely about static physical borders; rather, it intricately involves the control over critical transit corridors and vital natural resources, which significantly amplifies the region's overall significance on the global stage. This unique setting continuously forces domestic policymakers to balance sovereign economic interests with the intense strategic pressures exerted by neighboring entities. Consequently, the geopolitical environment invariably acts as a primary determinant in formulating robust national defense postures and comprehensive foreign policy frameworks. Furthermore, the inherent strategic value of these locations inevitably attracts competing interests, transforming local geographical advantages into focal points for broader strategic contestations. Understanding this geopolitical and geostrategic setting is absolutely essential for evaluating how states successfully navigate survival and assert diplomatic influence in a competitive international system.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

251. According to the passage, what does the spatial positioning of emerging territories fundamentally dictate?
(A) The precise boundaries of localized cultural traditions
(B) Their strategic vulnerability and diplomatic leverage
(C) The speed of domestic democratic transitions
(D) Their ability to manufacture advanced weaponry

252. How does the passage describe the nature of a geostrategic setting beyond static physical borders?
(A) Control over transit corridors and natural resources
(B) Maintaining absolute cultural uniformity and traditions
(C) Focusing strictly on demographic expansion and growth
(D) Centering entirely on internal bureaucratic management structures

253. What pressure does the unique geostrategic setting place on domestic policymakers?
(A) To isolate the region entirely from the global financial and trade markets
(B) To prioritize localized cultural assimilation over essential national defense
(C) To balance sovereign economic interests with external strategic pressures
(D) To dissolve national borders to reduce intense international competition

254. What is the geopolitical environment described as a primary determinant for?
(A) Establishing completely localized and specialized educational curriculums
(B) Dictating the specific linguistic preferences of the entire populace
(C) Ensuring the immediate and total eradication of internal factionalism
(D) Formulating national defense and foreign policy frameworks

255. Why do local geographical advantages transform into focal points for strategic contestations?
(A) Because they hold no significant relevance to modern international trade
(B) Because they guarantee absolute isolation from competitive global markets
(C) Because their strategic value attracts competing interests
(D) Because neighboring entities voluntarily ignore valuable strategic resources

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The trajectory of newly formed states is deeply embedded in the historical experiences of colonialism, nationalism, and independence movements. Academic assessments of these territories reveal that colonial administrative structures profoundly disrupted pre-existing socio-political orders, leaving a legacy of institutional fragmentation. In response to this exploitation, indigenous populations galvanized around shared identities, fueling intense nationalist sentiments. Nationalism served as the pivotal ideological framework that unified disparate

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290. According to the passage, what is a central challenge of modern governance regarding globalisation?
(A) Harnessing benefits while mitigating social disparities
(B) Ensuring that globalized media completely replaces all indigenous norms
(C) Completely blocking all integration into global financial markets
(D) Increasing the displacement of traditional and local economic sectors

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Evaluating post-independence developments reveals a complex process regarding the legitimation and survival of various political regimes. In many newly autonomous territories, post-independence developments were characterized by a rapid transition from provisional administrations to highly institutionalized political regimes. The longevity of these political regimes was largely determined by their ability to deliver sustained economic growth and manage internal factionalism. Often, post-independence developments saw the initial democratic frameworks severely tested by economic crises, prompting a shift toward authoritarian or hybrid political regimes. These non-democratic political regimes justified their concentration of power by emphasizing the absolute necessity of internal security and rapid industrialization. The evolution of these political regimes demonstrates that constitutional legitimacy was frequently subordinated to the practical imperatives of regime survival and state control. Furthermore, the nature of these post-independence developments indicates that when political regimes failed to adapt to changing demographic pressures or economic stagnation, they faced profound crises of legitimacy. Understanding the cyclical nature of these political regimes is essential for comprehending the broader trajectory of post-independence developments and the enduring struggle between autocratic governance and societal demands for broader political participation.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

291. What largely determined the longevity of institutionalized political regimes in newly autonomous territories?
(A) Their strict adherence to provisional and temporary administrative models
(B) Their intentional exacerbation of demographic and social pressures
(C) Their ability to deliver growth and manage internal factionalism
(D) Their outright and total rejection of rapid industrialization

292. What often prompted the shift toward authoritarian or hybrid political regimes?
(A) Economic crises that tested initial democratic frameworks
(B) A complete lack of interest in constitutional and legal legitimacy
(C) The immediate and widespread success of initial democratic frameworks
(D) The voluntary and peaceful resignation of provisional administrators

293. How did non-democratic political regimes justify their concentration of power?
(A) By advocating for decentralized and open political participation
(B) By highlighting their failure to manage internal and social factionalism
(C) By promoting the absolute necessity of economic and social stagnation
(D) By emphasizing internal security and rapid industrialization

294. What was frequently subordinated to the practical imperatives of regime survival and state control?
(A) Rapid industrialization growth
(B) Constitutional law
(C) Demographic expansion rates
(D) Internal security measures

295. What consequence did political regimes face when they failed to adapt to economic stagnation?
(A) Unprecedented increases in constitutional legitimacy
(B) Immediate integration into global financial markets
(C) Profound crises of legitimacy
(D) Automatic transitions into provisional

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27. (D) 1, 2 and 3
State-building in West Asia is complicated by several deep-seated hurdles, including intense sectarian divisions and frequent external military or political interventions. Additionally, the presence of a weak civil society limits the ability of citizens to hold their governments accountable. Conversely, the region is exceptionally rich in natural resources, particularly hydrocarbons, which heavily influence its political and economic landscape.

28. (B) Arab Spring - Began in Tunisia
The Arab Spring was a series of pro-democracy protests that swept across the Middle East and North Africa beginning in late 2010. This movement originated in Tunisia with the Jasmine Revolution, which led to the ousting of the long-term president. While similar uprisings occurred elsewhere, the Tulip Revolution happened in Kyrgyzstan and the Cedar Revolution took place in Lebanon.

29. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Traditional patriarchal and tribal systems in West Asia have often posed challenges to rapid democratic transitions by prioritizing local loyalties over national civic engagement. For democratization to occur effectively, a robust civil society is essential, as these organizations provide the necessary political space for advocacy and pluralism. Without such independent institutions, moving away from authoritarian structures remains extremely difficult.

30. (D) Structural Adjustment Programs mandated by international financial bodies.
Structural Adjustment Programs, often mandated by international financial institutions, have frequently complicated state-building in Africa. These programs required austerity measures and privatization, which sometimes weakened the state's capacity to provide social services and maintain stability. This reduction in state presence can lead to public discontent, thereby undermining the fragile processes of democratic consolidation and effective national governance.

31. (A) Power-sharing among different sectarian groups
Consociationalism is a political system designed to ensure stability in deeply divided societies by mandating power-sharing among different groups. In the context of Lebanon, this involves a formal arrangement where political offices and legislative seats are distributed among various religious sects. This framework aims to prevent conflict by giving each major community a stake in the national decision-making process.

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32. (B) The practice of neopatrimonial authoritarianism.
Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, most Central Asian states transitioned into regimes characterized by neopatrimonial authoritarianism. In these systems, leaders maintain power through a combination of formal bureaucratic structures and informal networks of patronage. This allows ruling elites to distribute national resources to loyal supporters, thereby ensuring regime survival while significantly limiting political competition and democratic accountability.

33. (B) To prevent ethnic fragmentation and consolidate national unity.
Many post-colonial African leaders adopted one-party systems as a strategic tool to build national identity in newly independent states. By banning multiple parties, they sought to prevent political competition from devolving into ethnic or tribal fragmentation. The primary objective was to consolidate power and foster a sense of unified national purpose during the fragile early years of sovereign statehood.

34. (A) All Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states are functioning republics.
The Gulf Cooperation Council consists of six member states, all of which are monarchies rather than republics. Saudi Arabia functions as an absolute monarchy, while others like Kuwait and Jordan have various forms of constitutional or semi-constitutional rule. In contrast, Israel is a parliamentary democracy, and Iran operates under a complex theocratic system that blends elected and unelected institutions.

ANSWERS

1. (B) Central Asia
Halford Mackinder's Heartland Theory identifies the interior of the Eurasian landmass as the most strategic geographical pivot in world history. Central Asia occupies this central position, being inaccessible to maritime powers and rich in resources. Mackinder argued that any nation commanding this core region could potentially dominate the entire world island and, eventually, the global political landscape.

2. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
West Asia acts as a vital land bridge connecting the continents of Asia, Africa, and Europe, facilitating global trade and migration. While the region faces significant freshwater challenges, its primary geopolitical importance stems from its massive hydrocarbon reserves and maritime chokepoints rather than water. Therefore, attributing its strategic value solely to freshwater supplies is factually incorrect.

3. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Strait of Hormuz serves as the world's most important oil transit chokepoint, linking the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. Because a substantial percentage of global petroleum consumption passes through this narrow waterway daily, any disruption there significantly impacts international energy markets. This vulnerability confirms its status as a critical global geostrategic location.

4. (D) Landlocked nations in Africa face no significant strategic trade disadvantages.
Landlocked nations in Africa face substantial strategic and economic hurdles due to their lack of direct ocean access. These countries depend on neighboring states for maritime trade, which increases transportation costs and creates vulnerability to regional instability. Geographic features like the Mediterranean Sea and strategic spots like the Horn of Africa further define the continent's complex geopolitical landscape.

5. (C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Strategic maritime chokepoints are geographically linked to specific territories that control or border them. The Suez Canal is located within Egypt, while the Bab el-Mandeb sits between the Horn of Africa and Yemen. The Strait of Hormuz is adjacent to Oman and the Persian Gulf, whereas the Cape of Good Hope is situated at the southern tip of South Africa.

6. (B) Persian Gulf
The Carter Doctrine was a policy proclaimed by United States President Jimmy Carter in 1980. It stated that the United States would use military force, if necessary, to defend its national interests in the Persian Gulf. This move was primarily intended to deter the Soviet Union from seeking regional hegemony and to ensure the secure flow of petroleum.

7. (D) 1, 2 and 3
Central Asia is a region defined by its landlocked geography and proximity to the Caspian Sea. It encompasses significant features like the Fergana Valley, which is shared among multiple republics. However, the region's climate is predominantly arid or semi-arid, characterized by vast steppes and deserts, meaning it does not contain any tropical rainforests which require high annual rainfall.

8. (A) Overpopulation of coastal cities
Central Asian republics are entirely landlocked, meaning they lack direct access to any open ocean or sea. Consequently, the challenge of overpopulation in coastal cities is non-existent for these nations. Their actual geopolitical hurdles include managing cross-border water resources from the Aral Sea basin, securing trade routes through foreign territories, and combatting the flow of illicit narcotics.

9. (C) A state deriving its primary revenue from the export of indigenous natural resources.
A rentier state is characterized by its high dependence on external rents, typically generated from the export of indigenous natural

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62. (D) Create a single market for goods and services
The African Continental Free Trade Area is a flagship project of the African Union designed to create a single market for goods and services. By eliminating tariffs and reducing trade barriers, AfCFTA aims to boost intra-African trade and accelerate industrialization. This initiative seeks to integrate the continent's diverse economies, making them more competitive and resilient in the global market.

63. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Regional trade among Central Asian states remains relatively low because their economies are often competitive rather than complementary. Most of these nations rely heavily on the export of similar primary resources, such as hydrocarbons and minerals. This lack of economic diversity makes it difficult to foster robust internal trade, as states frequently produce the same goods for external global markets.

64. (B) ECOWAS - West Africa
The Economic Community of West African States is a regional political and economic union of fifteen countries located in West Africa. Other organizations are incorrectly paired: the GCC is located in West Asia (the Gulf), the SCO is primarily focused on Central and East Asia, and SADC operates in Southern Africa. These organizations facilitate regional cooperation on trade and security.

65. (B) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
Regional and international organizations serve specific functional and geographical purposes. OPEC coordinates global oil production, while the Eurasian Economic Union focuses on economic integration among several post-Soviet states. The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) addresses development in the Horn of Africa, and the Arab League facilitates political and social cooperation among various Arabic-speaking nations across the Middle East.

66. (A) Security, defense, and diaspora welfare
India's strategic partnership with West Asian nations has evolved beyond a traditional buyer-seller relationship centered on energy. In recent years, this cooperation has expanded to include significant collaboration in security, maritime defense, and counter-terrorism. Additionally, protecting the welfare of the large Indian diaspora working in the region has become a central pillar of India's diplomatic engagement with Gulf countries.

67. (C) 1, 2 and 4
Chinese development cooperation in Africa has led to significant infrastructure improvements and increased resource extraction. However, these projects have also contributed to rising national debt in several African countries, leading to concerns about debt sustainability. Unlike Western aid models, Chinese engagement typically focuses on economic and infrastructure goals rather than the promotion of internal democratic political reforms or governance standards.

68. (D) The promotion and implementation of universal adult franchise.
The Gulf Cooperation Council was established to enhance economic integration, regional security, and foreign policy coordination among its six monarchical member states. While the organization focuses on collective stability and modernization, the promotion of universal adult franchise or democratic political reforms is not among its objectives. Instead, the GCC prioritizes the preservation of traditional governance structures and regional monarchical rule.

69. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
The New Partnership for Africa's Development is an economic program of the African Union aimed at fostering sustainable growth and poverty reduction. NEPAD emphasizes the importance of good governance and regional cooperation to attract investment. Far from prohibiting foreign direct investment, the program actively seeks to create an environment that encourages international capital and partnerships to support African development.

70. (A) I, II, IV, III
The establishment of regional organizations followed a distinct chronological order reflecting geopolitical shifts. The Organization of African Unity was founded in 1963, followed by the Gulf Cooperation Council in 1981. The African Union was established in 2002 to replace the OAU, while the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

18. (A) FLN (National Liberation Front)
The National Liberation Front, known as the FLN, was the principal nationalist movement that led the armed struggle for Algerian independence from French rule. Their efforts culminated in the Algerian War, which ended in 1962. In contrast, the Mau Mau uprising occurred in Kenya, the ANC focused on South Africa, and SWAPO led the independence movement in Namibia.

19. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
The Balfour Declaration was a public statement issued by the British government in 1917 during the First World War. It expressed official support for the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine. The declaration was not an Ottoman initiative; in fact, the Ottoman Empire was an adversary of Britain during the conflict.

20. (D) League of Nations
The mandate system was established by the League of Nations after the First World War to manage territories previously controlled by the defeated Ottoman and German Empires. Under this system, various regions in West Asia were placed under the temporary administrative control of Britain and France. The stated goal was to prepare these territories for eventual self-rule and sovereign independence.

21. (C) Mau Mau Uprising - North Africa
The Mau Mau Uprising was a significant anti-colonial rebellion that took place in Kenya, which is located in East Africa, rather than North Africa. Other regional movements are correctly matched: the Basmachi movement resisted Soviet rule in Central Asia, the Arab Revolt targeted Ottoman control in West Asia, and the Maji Maji Rebellion occurred against German colonialists in Tanzania.

22. (B) Fostering regional African socialism and collective national self-reliance.
Ujamaa was a social and economic policy introduced by President Julius Nyerere in post-independence Tanzania. It was based on the principles of African socialism, emphasizing collective farming, village settlement, and national self-reliance. The goal was to build a unified nation-state that rejected Western capitalist models while promoting communal development and social equality across the diverse indigenous population.

23. (C) A is true but R is false.
Following the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, democratization in Central Asia was hindered by the rise of entrenched authoritarian regimes. While independence was achieved, many post-Soviet leaders focused on consolidating power through personalistic rule rather than institutionalizing liberal democracy. Consequently, the transition to multi-party systems remained stagnant, with most republics maintaining highly centralized and restrictive political environments.

24. (A) State-building over nation-building
State-building involves creating the formal institutions of government, while nation-building focuses on fostering a shared sense of identity among the population. In many West Asian contexts, deep-seated tribal or sectarian loyalties often supersede national identity. This situation creates a significant challenge for democratization, as the lack of a cohesive national bond makes it difficult to establish stable representative governance.

25. (C) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Political regimes vary significantly across different regions based on historical and societal factors. Many Gulf states in West Asia operate as absolute monarchies, while Central Asian republics are often characterized by authoritarian presidentialism. Iran represents a unique modern theocracy. Meanwhile, several Sub-Saharan African nations, such as Ghana, have successfully transitioned into emerging democracies with regular competitive elections.

26. (A) Resource wealth often correlates with corruption and poor governance.
The "Resource Curse" refers to the paradox where countries with an abundance of natural resources often experience stagnant economic growth and poor governance. In Africa, vast mineral or oil wealth frequently encourages corruption and the centralization of power as elites compete for control over these rents. This dynamic often undermines the development of democratic institutions and diversified, stable national economies.

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administrations

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The intersection of resource scarcity and governance deficits severely exacerbates internal and external threats to state security and human security. A focused study on environmental degradation reveals that the depletion of critical resources directly triggers internal threats to state security by inciting communal violence and anti-government protests over resource allocation. Simultaneously, this scarcity intensifies external threats to state security as neighboring nations compete aggressively over shared water basins and cross-border mineral deposits. In this highly volatile context, human security is disproportionately compromised. The lack of access to fundamental resources destroys livelihoods, thereby deepening the crisis of human security and accelerating mass migrations. When governments fail to address the root causes of resource depletion, the resulting erosion of human security feeds back into the cycle, creating new and formidable internal threats to state security. Moreover, unresolved external threats to state security regarding border resources continuously drain national budgets away from essential public services, further weakening human security. This dynamic illustrates that sustainable state survival requires holistic policies that simultaneously neutralize armed external threats and actively secure the fundamental economic and environmental foundations of human security.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

296. What triggers internal threats to state security in the context of resource scarcity?
(A) The abundance of cross-border mineral deposits and natural wealth
(B) The successful implementation of holistic and environmental policies
(C) The overfunding of essential public and social services
(D) Communal violence and protests over resource allocation

297. How does resource scarcity intensify external threats to state security?
(A) By causing neighbors to compete over shared resources
(B) By eliminating the need for national defense and military budgets
(C) By naturally resolving border disputes through formal diplomatic channels
(D) By reducing the incidence of mass migrations across international borders

298. What is a direct consequence of the lack of access to fundamental resources on human security?
(A) It stabilizes local livelihoods and prevents mass migration
(B) It destroys livelihoods and accelerates migrations
(C) It encourages immediate and voluntary national disarmament
(D) It redirects national budgets toward essential public services

299. What happens when governments fail to address the root causes of resource depletion?
(A) External threats spontaneously and naturally neutralize themselves
(B) Human security erosion creates new internal threats
(C) Governance deficits are automatically and fully resolved
(D) The national budget experiences an unprecedented financial surplus

300. What is required for sustainable state survival according to the passage?
(A) Policies that neutralize threats and secure human security
(B) Focusing national budgets exclusively on armed and external threats
(C) Ignoring the economic and environmental foundations of human security
(D) Allowing neighboring nations absolute control over shared water basins

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35. (C) 1, 2, 4 and 5
Military regimes in post-independence Africa typically seize power through coups and maintain control by suspending the national constitution and dissolving parliament. These regimes often rule by decree and justify their intervention by promising to end corruption or restore order. While they claim to be temporary, they often restrict civil liberties, including the press, to consolidate their political authority.

36. (D) A system blending democratic electoral processes with authoritarian traits.
A hybrid regime is a political system that occupies the space between democracy and pure authoritarianism. Such regimes often hold regular elections and maintain some formal democratic institutions, but these processes are frequently undermined by state interference and restrictions on civil liberties. This creates an uneven playing field where the ruling elite can maintain power despite the existence of electoral competition.

37. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
Most Central Asian states have lacked peaceful and frequent transfers of power between different political parties since independence. Instead, long-serving leaders have frequently consolidated their authority by using controversial constitutional referendums to extend their presidential terms. This practice has limited political pluralism and ensured the continuation of centralized rule, rather than fostering a dynamic and competitive multi-party democratic environment.

38. (B) A multiparty constitutional democracy
Since the end of apartheid in 1994, South Africa has functioned as a multiparty constitutional democracy. The country's political system is grounded in a progressive constitution that protects civil liberties and ensures regular, competitive elections. This framework allows for a diverse range of political parties to participate in the legislative process, representing the country's multi-racial and socially complex population.

39. (D) Rentier state theory
Rentier state theory explains how governments that rely primarily on external rents, such as oil revenues, can maintain power without taxing their citizens. Because the state does not depend on domestic taxation for its budget, the traditional demand for political representation is often weakened. Instead, the regime uses resource wealth to provide public goods and patronage, thereby ensuring its survival.

40. (A) IV, I, III, II
The political landscape was shaped by several major events in a specific historical sequence. The Islamic Republic of Iran was established in 1979, followed by the independence of Kazakhstan in 1991 after the Soviet collapse. Apartheid in South Africa officially ended in 1994 with the first multi-racial elections, while the Arab Spring protests began much later in late 2010.

41. (C) Ethnic separatism and insurgency
Internal security in many African states is frequently threatened by ethnic separatism and armed insurgencies. These conflicts often arise from grievances related to political marginalization, resource competition, or historical animosities between different groups. Such internal instability can undermine the authority of the central government, lead to widespread violence, and hinder the overall economic and social development of the nation.

42. (A) The state to the individual
Human security represents a conceptual shift in international relations, moving the focus of security from the protection of the state to the well-being of the individual. This broader perspective emphasizes that people should be free from both fear and want. It addresses diverse threats such as poverty, disease, and environmental degradation, which impact daily life more directly than traditional military conflicts.

43. (C) A is true but R is false.
Water scarcity represents a severe human security threat in West Asia due to its arid climate and growing population. While desalination plants provide a significant source of potable water for several coastal nations, they are energy-intensive and do not completely resolve the region's agricultural water crisis. Therefore, water remains a contested resource that can exacerbate local tensions and regional instability.

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44. (B) Aral Sea ecological disaster - Central Asia
The drying of the Aral Sea is a major ecological and human security disaster specifically affecting Central Asia. Other groups are misplaced: Boko Haram operates in West Africa, the Houthi conflict is centered in Yemen within West Asia, and Al-Shabaab is primarily active in East Africa, particularly Somalia. These diverse threats highlight the regionalized nature of security challenges across different continents.

45. (C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Modern security threats are diverse and context-specific. Piracy is a major concern near the Horn of Africa, while narcoterrorism involves militants in Central Asia funded by the drug trade. Cyber warfare was exemplified by the Stuxnet attack on Iranian facilities. Meanwhile, desertification represents a critical environmental human security challenge in the Sahel region, threatening livelihoods and causing displacement.

46. (D) The Kurdish population
The Kurdish population represents one of the largest stateless nations in the world, spread across Turkey, Iraq, Iran, and Syria. Their aspirations for autonomy or independence create complex security challenges for these states. This situation often leads to internal conflict and cross-border tensions as regional governments attempt to maintain their territorial integrity against Kurdish nationalist movements and armed groups.

47. (A) 1, 2 and 3
Sub-Saharan Africa faces significant human security challenges, including widespread food insecurity and a high prevalence of infectious diseases. The region is also experiencing a rapid demographic explosion, which puts immense pressure on existing infrastructure and resources. However, nuclear proliferation is not a widespread regional concern, as most African nations have prioritized conventional security and socio-economic development over nuclear programs.

48. (B) Human and state security infrastructure
A sudden influx of refugees from a neighboring conflict can strain a host nation's human and state security infrastructure. The increased demand for food, housing, and healthcare can overwhelm local resources, potentially leading to social tensions. Furthermore, the presence of large displaced populations can affect state stability if the government is unable to manage the logistical and security challenges effectively.

49. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
The Fergana Valley is a critical geographical area in Central Asia, shared by Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. It is characterized by ethnic diversity and complex, often disputed, internal borders established during the Soviet era. These factors make it a hotspot for local tensions and security threats. Contrary to some misconceptions, the valley is located in Central Asia, not North Africa.

50. (A) Strong border enforcement capabilities
Security in the Sahel region is undermined by several factors, including the proliferation of small arms and weak governmental institutions. Furthermore, cross-border nomadic militancy exploits the region's porous boundaries. Strong border enforcement capabilities would actually enhance state security, but their absence is what allows insurgent groups and transnational criminals to operate with relative impunity across the vast, arid territory.

51. (C) Proxy war
The Syrian conflict is often characterized as a proxy war because multiple extra-regional powers have intervened by supporting opposing local factions. These external actors provide military aid, financial backing, and political support to advance their own geopolitical interests. This dynamic has prolonged the violence and complicated efforts to find a peaceful resolution, as the conflict reflects broader global and regional rivalries.

52. (D) China
China has become a major extra-regional power in Africa through its ambitious Belt and Road Initiative. This strategy involves massive investments in infrastructure projects, such as railways, ports, and energy facilities, across the continent. These investments aim to enhance connectivity and secure access to resources, significantly increasing China's economic and political influence in many African nations over the past two decades.

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53. (C) The issue of Jerusalem is universally resolved.
The Israeli-Palestinian conflict remains one of the most enduring regional disputes, having caused multiple wars and persistent instability. While the Oslo Accords provided a framework for peace, many core issues remain contested. The status of Jerusalem, in particular, is not universally resolved and remains a highly sensitive and disputed topic for both parties and the broader international community.

54. (B) Russia
The Wagner Group is a private military company with strong ties to the Russian government. Its involvement in various African conflicts, including in Mali and the Central African Republic, signifies Russia's expanding influence on the continent. By providing security services and military support to various regimes, Russia aims to secure geopolitical advantages and access to valuable natural resources across the region.

55. (D) 1, 2, 3 and 5
Regional conflicts in West Asia are driven by the intense rivalry between Iran and Saudi Arabia, which often weaponizes sectarian differences. The United States maintains a significant military presence through various bases, and non-state actors play increasingly influential roles. Although organizations like the GCC exist, they have not been able to resolve all regional conflicts peacefully, as evidenced by persistent tensions.

56. (A) Intense competition for control over vast domestic mineral wealth.
The protracted conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo is primarily driven by competition over the country's immense natural resources. Vast reserves of minerals like cobalt, gold, and coltan have incentivized various armed groups and neighboring states to intervene. This struggle for resource control has led to widespread violence, displacement, and a chronic lack of stability in the region.

57. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, Central Asia has experienced several significant border disputes, some of which have led to armed clashes. To address these and other security concerns, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation plays a vital role in regional cooperation. The SCO focuses on combating terrorism, separatism, and extremism, providing a framework for member states to coordinate their security policies.

58. (A) Islamist militant groups
French military interventions in West Africa, such as Operation Barkhane, were primarily launched to combat the spread of Islamist militant groups. These operations aimed to stabilize the Sahel region and prevent extremist organizations from seizing territory or establishing safe havens. Despite significant efforts, these interventions faced challenges related to local sovereignty and the complex underlying causes of regional instability and radicalization.

59. (D) Patron-client relationship
A patron-client relationship in international relations occurs when a powerful extra-regional state provides security guarantees or aid to a smaller regional state. In exchange, the regional state provides the patron with strategic benefits, such as access to energy resources or military bases. This dynamic often defines the interactions between great powers and resource-rich nations in regions like West Asia.

60. (B) West Asia
The Abraham Accords represent a significant shift in West Asian regional relations by normalizing diplomatic ties between Israel and several Arab nations, including the UAE and Bahrain. These agreements moved away from traditional decades of hostility, focusing instead on shared economic interests and common security concerns. This realignment has altered the geopolitical landscape of the Middle East, fostering new forms of cooperation.

61. (C) African Union (AU)
The African Union is the principal organization for regional integration and cooperation across the entire continent. Established to replace the Organization of African Unity, the AU aims to promote peace, security, and economic development. It provides a platform for member states to address collective challenges, including conflict resolution, democratic governance, and the implementation of continent-wide developmental initiatives and trade agreements.

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resources like oil or gas. In such economies, the government receives the majority of its revenue from foreign concerns or governments. This structure often leads to a social contract where citizens are untaxed in exchange for limited political representation.

10. (A) II, I, IV, III
The historical trajectory of African colonization began with the initial scramble for territory by European powers. This competition was formalized during the Berlin Conference of 1884, which established rules for partition. Decolonization occurred largely after the Second World War, eventually leading to the formation of the Organization of African Unity in 1963 to promote continental cooperation and sovereignty.

11. (D) Classical Realism
Classical Realism provides a robust framework for understanding the "Great Game," which involved the nineteenth-century strategic rivalry between the British and Russian Empires. This perspective emphasizes the pursuit of national interests, power accumulation, and territorial expansion in an anarchic international system. The competition was driven by the desire for regional hegemony and the securing of strategic buffer zones.

12. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
The Sykes-Picot Agreement was a secret 1916 pact between Britain and France that divided the Arab provinces of the Ottoman Empire. These modern borders were drawn primarily to serve European imperial interests rather than local realities. Consequently, the agreement largely ignored the complex ethno-religious and demographic distributions of the region, leading to persistent tensions and boundary disputes.

13. (C) Jomo Kenyatta - Kenya
National identity in Africa was shaped by leaders who spearheaded movements against colonial rule in their respective countries. Jomo Kenyatta was the primary leader of the independence struggle in Kenya. Conversely, Kwame Nkrumah led Ghana, Nelson Mandela spearheaded the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa, and Julius Nyerere was the founding father of the modern state of Tanzania.

14. (D) Ottoman decline spurred the desire for autonomous Arab self-governance.
Arab nationalism emerged significantly during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as the power of the Ottoman Empire began to wane. This decline created a political vacuum and fostered a growing sense of shared identity among Arabic-speaking populations. The desire for autonomy and self-governance became a powerful force against both Ottoman Turkification and subsequent European colonial interventions.

15. (A) 1, 2, 3 and 5
European colonialism in Africa was facilitated by industrial needs for raw materials and technological advancements like quinine, which treated malaria. Superior military technology and the strategic exploitation of local ethnic rivalries allowed European powers to consolidate control. However, unified pan-African resistance was a later development that aimed to dismantle colonial rule rather than a factor that helped facilitate it.

16. (B) Indirect control achieved through economic and cultural dependencies.
Neo-colonialism describes a situation where a formerly colonized nation achieves political independence but remains subject to indirect pressure from more developed states. This influence is typically exerted through economic structures, financial debt, or cultural dominance rather than direct military occupation. It results in the continuation of extractive patterns where the former colony remains dependent on its past administrators.

17. (B) It resulted in the arbitrary creation of internal administrative borders.
When Central Asia was incorporated into the Soviet Union, the Bolshevik government established internal administrative boundaries that often disregarded traditional ethnic and linguistic territories. These artificial borders were designed to divide populations and prevent the rise of unified nationalist movements. This legacy continues to cause friction and border disputes among the independent republics that emerged after the Soviet collapse.

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was formally created in 2001, highlighting the evolving nature of regional cooperation frameworks.

71. (D) Integrating global oil markets and exposing states to economic shocks.
Globalization has deeply integrated West Asian states into the global oil market, making their economies highly sensitive to international price fluctuations and economic shocks. While resource wealth has fueled development, this interdependence means that shifts in global demand or energy technology directly affect national budgets. Globalization has not eradicated religious identities but has created new challenges for traditional social and economic structures.

72. (A) Deindustrialization due to cheap imports
Globalization has sometimes led to deindustrialization in Africa as local industries struggle to compete with cheaper imported goods. The influx of mass-produced products from more advanced economies can undermine domestic manufacturing sectors, hindering the growth of local businesses. This challenge highlights the uneven impacts of global trade integration, where smaller or less developed industries may face significant setbacks from unrestricted international competition.

73. (C) Transnational digital networks and information flow.
State sovereignty in Central Asia faces new challenges from globalization through the rise of transnational digital networks. These platforms allow for the rapid flow of information and ideas that can bypass state-controlled media and traditional censorship. This digital connectivity enables citizens to engage with global narratives and organize socially, which can sometimes tension the highly centralized authority of regional governments.

74. (A) It has completely eradicated poverty.
While globalization has integrated African resources into global supply chains and facilitated mobile banking innovations like M-Pesa, it has not completely eradicated poverty. In many cases, globalization has actually widened the digital divide and increased economic inequality. The benefits of global integration are often concentrated in urban centers or specific sectors, leaving many rural and marginalized populations behind.

75. (D) 1, 2 and 4
Globalization in West Asia has led to the spread of Western consumer culture and an increased reliance on global social media platforms. These changes have sometimes sparked a backlash in the form of localized identity politics or a resurgence of traditional values. However, globalization has not resulted in the complete secularization of society or the total homogenization of diverse local dialects.

76. (B) Central Asia and North Africa
Remittances, which are funds sent home by migrant workers, play a critical role in the economies of many countries in Central Asia and North Africa. In nations like Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, these transfers constitute a significant portion of the national GDP. This aspect of globalization provides a vital financial lifeline for millions of families, supporting local consumption and reducing extreme poverty.

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77. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
Globalization is a multidimensional process that involves cultural, political, and social integration in addition to economic links. One significant security impact of this connectivity is the facilitated spread of non-state armed groups across international borders. These groups utilize global communication networks and financial systems to operate transnationally, challenging the traditional ability of sovereign states to maintain internal and regional security.

78. (D) Norm diffusion and cultural friction
The spread of global human rights norms often leads to cultural friction when these values challenge long-standing local traditions in Africa. This process of norm diffusion involves international organizations and activists advocating for universal standards that may conflict with indigenous social practices. This tension highlights the ongoing struggle to balance global expectations with local cultural autonomy and traditional societal structures.

97. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
The modern borders of Central Asian states were largely drawn during the Soviet era by the Bolshevik government. These administrative boundaries were often established arbitrarily and did not perfectly align with the complex ethnic and linguistic distributions of the region. This lack of alignment has contributed to persistent border disputes and ethnic tensions among the independent republics since 1991.

98. (A) The collapse of the Ottoman Empire after WWI.
The collapse of the Ottoman Empire following World War I served as a major catalyst for modern Arab nationalism. The end of centuries of Ottoman rule and the subsequent imposition of European mandates sparked a desire for sovereign Arab states. This movement sought to unify various Arabic-speaking populations based on shared language, culture, and a common history of resistance against external control.

99. (C) Islamic revivalism and modern educational reform.
The Jadid movement was an influential intellectual and social reform movement in Central Asia during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It focused on Islamic revivalism combined with modern educational reforms, such as the introduction of "new method" schools. The Jadids sought to modernize their society to resist colonial influence while preserving their cultural and religious identity.

100. (A) I, IV, II, III
African nations achieved independence in a sequence that reflected the broader decolonization wave. Ghana became the first Sub-Saharan colony to gain independence in 1957, followed by Kenya in 1963. Zimbabwe achieved independence in 1980 after a protracted struggle, and South Sudan became the world's newest nation in 2011 following a referendum and separation from the Republic of Sudan.

101. (C) Creating a shared sense of national identity and unity.
While state-building focuses on establishing the physical and bureaucratic institutions of governance, nation-building is a more complex social process. It involves creating a shared sense of national identity and unity among diverse populations. This process is essential for long-term stability, as it encourages citizens to prioritize their national allegiance over local tribal, ethnic, or religious identities within the state.

102. (B) The weakening of the "taxation-representation" dynamic.
In rentier states, governments rely on external resource rents rather than domestic taxation to fund their activities. This financial independence weakens the traditional "taxation-representation" dynamic, as the state does not need to consult citizens or provide political rights in exchange for revenue. Consequently, the lack of economic pressure for accountability often poses a significant hurdle to the development of democratic governance.

103. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Chronic political instability in many African states is often linked to the legacy of artificial colonial borders. These boundaries were drawn by European powers without regard for existing ethnic, linguistic, or cultural territories. By forcing disparate or rival groups into single state entities, colonialism created internal tensions that have frequently led to conflict and hindered the development of cohesive national identities.

104. (A) Civil society operates with complete freedom in all countries.
Post-independence state-building in West Asia has often prioritized regime security over civil liberties, leading to significant restrictions on civil society. While oil wealth has been used to consolidate state power and build infrastructure, it has not always fostered open political environments. In many countries, the military continues to play a dominant role, and independent associations face considerable government oversight or suppression.

105. (C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
Democratization faces diverse regional challenges. In pre-1994 Rwanda, ethnic polarization was a primary hurdle, while Lebanon struggles with complex sectarian conflict. Central Asia is often characterized by clan-based patronage networks that influence political loyalty. Meanwhile,

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88. (A) Its legal status impacts the exploitation of rich sub-sea oil and gas fields.
The Caspian Sea is geopolitically significant due to its immense sub-sea oil and gas reserves. For decades, the littoral states disputed whether it should be legally classified as a sea or a lake, as this status determines how maritime boundaries and resources are divided. A 2018 agreement helped clarify these rights, facilitating the further development of its valuable hydrocarbon resources.

89. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
The Horn of Africa is highly geostrateic as it borders the Bab el-Mandeb, a critical chokepoint for global maritime trade passing through the Red Sea. Persistent regional instability, including conflict and piracy, directly threatens the security of these international shipping lanes. Therefore, the region remains a focal point for global powers interested in maintaining the free flow of trade between Asia and Europe.

90. (A) China
The "String of Pearls" is a geopolitical theory describing China's strategy of establishing a network of military and commercial facilities along its primary maritime trade routes. These locations, spanning from the South China Sea through the Indian Ocean to the Horn of Africa, aim to protect Chinese energy interests and expand its naval presence across critical global sea lanes.

91. (D) France
During the colonial era, France practiced a policy of "Assimilation" in many of its African territories. This policy aimed to integrate colonized populations into French culture, language, and political systems, theoretically allowing them to become French citizens. This approach differed from the British model of indirect rule, as it sought to create a culturally unified empire governed directly by French administrative standards.

92. (B) Great Britain
The discovery of oil in Iran in 1908 significantly increased the strategic interest of Great Britain in the region. The Anglo-Persian Oil Company was formed to exploit these reserves, leading to decades of British economic and political influence over Iranian affairs. Securing these energy supplies became a cornerstone of British imperial strategy, especially as the Royal Navy transitioned from coal to oil.

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93. (B) Uniting Africans for political and economic progress.
Pan-Africanism emerged as a global movement dedicated to uniting people of African descent and fostering solidarity among African nations. Its primary objective was to achieve political independence, economic progress, and the restoration of dignity for Africans worldwide. This movement played a crucial role in the decolonization process, encouraging collective action against European imperial rule and the establishment of sovereign states.

94. (D) Libya - Former Italian colony
Libya's path to independence involved the end of Italian colonial rule following the Second World War. Other countries had different colonial administrators: Algeria was controlled by France, Egypt experienced significant British influence, and Angola was a colony of Portugal. Understanding these colonial legacies is essential for analyzing the modern political and social structures of these diverse African and North African nations.

95. (A) 1, 2 and 4
Colonial economic structures in Africa were designed to serve European industrial needs by focusing on the extraction of raw materials and the cultivation of cash crops for export. Infrastructure, such as railways and ports, was primarily built to facilitate this extraction rather than to integrate local economies. These systems generally neglected domestic manufacturing and resulted in highly unequal distributions of wealth.

96. (B) A Jewish homeland in Palestine
Zionism emerged in the late nineteenth century as a nationalist movement advocating for the self-determination of the Jewish people and the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. This movement was a response to centuries of persecution and the rise of modern nationalism in Europe. Its goals were eventually realized with the creation of the State of Israel in 1948.

developing countries located in the Global South. This framework allows these nations to share knowledge, resources, and successful developmental strategies to achieve their collective goals. By working together, they aim to reduce their dependence on Northern developed countries and increase their voice and influence in the international political and economic system.

149. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The Economic Community of West African States is a regional organization that has occasionally intervened militarily to restore constitutional order and resolve conflicts in its member states. While ECOWAS has played a vital role in regional stabilization, it has not successfully prevented all civil wars or coups in West Africa. The region continues to face security challenges that require ongoing diplomatic and peacekeeping efforts.

150. (B) Uzbekistan
The Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) is a regional economic integration organization that includes several post-Soviet states such as Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus, and Kyrgyzstan. While Uzbekistan has shown interest and currently holds observer status, it is not a full member of the union. This distinction reflects the varying levels of economic and political alignment among Central Asian nations with Russian-led integration projects.

151. (D) The emigration of skilled professionals to developed nations.
Brain drain refers to the large-scale emigration of highly skilled and educated professionals, such as doctors and engineers, from developing nations to more advanced economies. In Africa, this phenomenon is often driven by the search for better economic opportunities and living conditions. This loss of human capital can significantly hinder a country's development and its ability to provide essential public services like healthcare.

152. (A) Export processing zones established to attract foreign manufacturing.
In North Africa, the establishment of export processing zones serves as a localized equivalent to the "Maquiladora" phenomenon. These zones are designed to attract foreign direct investment by offering tax incentives and simplified regulations for manufacturing goods destined for international markets. This strategy integrates regional labor into global supply chains, fostering industrial growth and providing employment opportunities while connecting local economies to global trade.

153. (C) It necessitates economic diversification due to energy shifts.
Globalization and the global shift toward renewable energy are forcing rentier states in West Asia to diversify their economies. As international demand for fossil fuels potentially plateaus or declines, these nations must find alternative sources of revenue to maintain their social contracts and state capacity. This challenge has led to ambitious national projects, such as Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, aimed at modernization.

154. (A) Glocalization - Adapting global products to local cultural contexts.
Glocalization is a term that describes the adaptation of global products, ideas, or services to fit the specific needs and cultural contexts of local markets. This process allows global corporations to remain relevant and successful in diverse regions while preserving some local identity. In contrast, economic liberalization involves opening markets to international trade, and protectionism involves restricting such trade to favor domestic industries.

155. (D) 1, 2, 3 and 5
Globalization in Central Asia has led to increased integration into global energy markets and exposure to international financial crises. It has also facilitated the spread of transnational radical ideologies via the internet and increased foreign investment in extractive industries. While cultural influences have changed, the region has not seen the complete homogenization of its diverse cultures, as local identities remain strong and resilient.

156. (B) Socio-economic inequalities
The digital divide in Africa refers to the gap between those who have access to modern communication technologies and those who do not. In a globalized world, this divide can

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Egypt has a long history of entrenched military influence, where the armed forces play a decisive role in national politics and the state's survival.

106. (A) Neopatrimonialism
Neopatrimonialism describes a political system where leaders maintain authority through a combination of formal bureaucratic structures and informal networks of patronage. In Central Asia, this often involves distributing state resources and positions to loyal supporters based on clan or personal ties. This practice ensures regime stability by creating a dependent elite class while undermining the development of transparent and merit-based democratic institutions.

107. (D) 1, 2 and 3
Democratization in West Asia is impeded by strong monarchical traditions and weak democratic institutions that lack historical depth. Furthermore, frequent geopolitical interventions by external powers often prioritize stability over political reform. While some populations are diverse, the challenge is not a lack of identity politics, but rather how deeply these identities are polarized, hindering the formation of a unified civic consensus.

108. (B) The state's monopoly on legitimate violence and justice.
Traditional tribal councils, such as the Kaza, often resolve disputes using local customary laws rather than the national judicial system. When these councils operate independently, they challenge the state's monopoly on legitimate violence and the administration of justice. For effective state-building, the central government must integrate these local structures into a unified legal framework to ensure the consistent rule of law.

109. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
The Arab Spring did not lead to consolidated democracies across the entire Middle East; instead, it resulted in diverse outcomes, including civil wars and a return to authoritarianism in many states. Tunisia is widely considered the only relative success story of the movement, having established a fragile but functioning democratic system. In most other countries, the initial hopes for political liberalization were quickly overshadowed.

110. (D) A depoliticized bureaucracy and the rule of law.
Effective state-building in Africa requires the development of strong, independent institutions that are insulated from partisan political interference. A depoliticized bureaucracy ensures that public services are delivered efficiently and fairly, while the rule of law provides a predictable framework for governance and commerce. These elements are more critical for long-term stability than a reliance on charismatic leadership or military power.

111. (A) Competitive Authoritarianism
Competitive authoritarianism describes a hybrid regime where democratic institutions exist and are utilized to exercise power, but the ruling elite systematically undermines the fairness of the political process. While elections are held and opposition parties are allowed, the government uses state resources and media control to skew the playing field. This ensures that the incumbent party maintains power while maintaining a façade of democracy.

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112. (B) Federal parliamentary republic
Following the 2003 invasion, Iraq's new constitution established the country as a federal parliamentary republic. This system was designed to ensure power-sharing among the country's major ethnic and religious groups, specifically the Shia, Sunnis, and Kurds. The framework includes a president with symbolic powers and a prime minister who heads the government, reflecting a departure from previous highly centralized and dictatorial rule.

113. (B) Laws and governance must align with Sharia overseen by clerics.
An Islamic Republic, such as Iran, is characterized by a political system where national laws and governance are required to align with Islamic principles and Sharia. While the state may include elected institutions like a parliament and presidency, these are overseen by unelected theocratic bodies. Clerics hold ultimate authority to ensure that all state actions remain consistent with their interpretation of religious doctrine.

79. (A) Global financial capitalism
Many West Asian states utilize Sovereign Wealth Funds to manage and invest their massive oil revenues in the international market. By holding significant assets in global stocks, bonds, and real estate, these nations actively participate in global financial capitalism. These funds are used to diversify national income and provide long-term economic security, illustrating how resource-rich states integrate into the global economy.

80. (B) Water-intensive export agriculture has increased ecological stress.
Globalization has affected environmental security in Central Asia by encouraging water-intensive export agriculture, such as cotton production, which has placed severe stress on regional water systems. The demand for commodities in the global market can incentivize unsustainable resource use, leading to ecological degradation like the drying of the Aral Sea. This illustrates how economic integration can exacerbate local environmental crises.

81. (B) Heartland Theory
The Heartland Theory, proposed by Halford Mackinder, suggests that the core of the Eurasian landmass, or the "Heartland," is the key to global power. Mackinder famously argued that whoever rules East Europe commands the Heartland, and whoever rules the Heartland commands the World-Island. This theory emphasizes the strategic importance of land-based power over traditional maritime dominance in controlling Eurasia.

82. (A) North Africa
The term "Maghreb" refers to the geopolitical sub-region of North Africa, encompassing countries such as Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya. Historically and geographically, the Maghreb is distinguished by its shared cultural heritage and proximity to the Mediterranean Sea and Europe. This region plays a vital role in Mediterranean security and trade, acting as a bridge between Africa and Europe.

83. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Central Asia's geopolitical value surged following the 9/11 attacks as the United States sought military bases and logistical routes for its operations in neighboring Afghanistan. The region's strategic location made it a crucial transit hub for personnel and supplies. This increased attention from global powers brought new investments and security cooperation to the Central Asian republics during the early 2000s.

84. (D) It contains the world's largest proven freshwater lakes.
The Middle East is a geostrategic crossroads that connects three continents and holds the world's largest hydrocarbon reserves. It also encompasses critical maritime chokepoints like the Strait of Hormuz. However, the region is characterized by extreme water scarcity and does not contain the world's largest freshwater lakes; instead, it relies heavily on limited river systems and advanced desalination technology.

85. (C) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Diverse geopolitical regions are defined by specific geographic characteristics. The Sahel is a transition zone south of the Sahara desert, while the Levant refers to the eastern Mediterranean shores. Anatolia is the peninsula that forms the heart of modern-day Turkey. Finally, the Steppe consists of the vast, semi-arid grasslands that dominate much of the Central Asian landscape.

86. (B) Russia
Historically, Russia has pursued a "warm water port" strategy to gain reliable year-round access to global maritime trade routes, which are often blocked by ice in the north. This strategic ambition has influenced its historical interventions in both West and Central Asia. The desire for southern maritime access remains a key driver of Russian foreign policy and its strategic interests in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

87. (D) 1, 2 and 4
Africa's growing geopolitical importance is driven by its massive demographic dividend and its abundance of rare earth elements, which are vital for modern technology. Additionally, African nations form a significant voting bloc in the United Nations General Assembly. While several states are landlocked, the continent as a whole possesses extensive coastlines that are critical for international maritime trade and security.

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its operations and promote its extremist ideology. Its presence challenges the authority of regional governments and complicates international efforts to stabilize these volatile areas.

123. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) represents a severe security threat in Africa because these weapons are affordable, easily portable, and simple to operate. Their widespread availability allows local insurgencies and criminal networks to sustain long-term conflicts even with limited resources. Consequently, the flow of these weapons fuels instability and hinders peacebuilding efforts across many conflict-prone regions on the continent.

124. (B) Upstream dam construction does not affect downstream water supply.
Water security is a major geopolitical issue in West Asia, particularly regarding shared river systems like the Tigris and Euphrates. Upstream dam construction, such as projects in Turkey, can significantly reduce the water supply for downstream nations like Syria and Iraq. This competition for limited water resources, combined with the impacts of climate change, exacerbates existing tensions and threatens the livelihoods of millions.

125. (C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Security threats are categorized based on their impact and the entities they target. Food insecurity and health issues primarily represent human security threats, while human trafficking is a form of transnational crime. Cyber espionage and attacks on infrastructure are classified as information security threats. Finally, separatist insurgencies pose a direct challenge to state security by questioning the government's territorial integrity and authority.

126. (D) An issue is framed as a critical existential threat.
Securitization occurs when a political actor successfully frames a specific issue as an existential threat to a particular referent object, such as the state or a community. By doing so, the actor can justify the use of extraordinary measures that would otherwise be unacceptable in normal political discourse. This process moves the issue out of the realm of standard debate into the sphere of emergency politics.

127. (A) 1, 2 and 3
Internal state security in West Asia is undermined by socio-economic and political challenges, such as high youth unemployment and deep sectarian divides. Furthermore, the legitimacy deficit of many regimes can spark widespread public protests and unrest. While these factors are realistic and persistent threats, the region does not face any credible risk from extraterrestrial invasions, which remains a purely fictional concept rather than a strategic concern.

128. (B) Public health crises caused by toxic dust storms.
The drying of the Aral Sea has created a massive human security crisis in Central Asia, primarily through its impact on public health. The receding waters have exposed vast amounts of toxic salts and pesticides, which are then carried by dust storms into nearby communities. These storms cause high rates of respiratory diseases and other health problems, illustrating the direct link between environmental degradation and human well-being.

129. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
High external debt and mandated structural adjustment programs can negatively impact human security in African nations by forcing governments to cut spending on social services like health and education. These austerity measures often hit the most vulnerable populations hardest. Furthermore, many African states continue to struggle with significant debt burdens today, meaning that no country on the continent can be considered completely debt-free.

130. (A) III, I, IV, II
The global threat profiles of various militant groups peaked in a distinct historical order. The PLO's militant phase was most prominent during the 1970s. Al-Qaeda rose to global infamy around the late 1990s and early 2000s. Boko Haram's regional insurgency gained significant international attention after 2009, while ISIS

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(Daesh) reached its peak territorial control and global threat level around 2014.

131. (C) Yemen (Saudi Arabia vs. Iran regional influence)
The conflict in Yemen is widely regarded as a proxy war because it reflects the broader regional rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran. Each power supports opposing local factions to advance its own geopolitical interests without engaging in direct conflict with the other. This external intervention has significantly intensified the violence and humanitarian crisis, making a domestic resolution much more difficult to achieve.

132. (D) Active support provided to opposing internal factions.
In the Syrian civil war, extra-regional powers have played a decisive role by providing active support to different internal factions. Some powers have backed the central government with military and financial aid, while others have supported various opposition groups. This external involvement has turned a domestic uprising into a complex internationalized conflict, illustrating how regional crises can become battlegrounds for global strategic competition.

133. (C) Morocco and the Polisario Front
The conflict over Western Sahara is a long-standing territorial dispute between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Polisario Front, which seeks independence for the Sahrawi people. Morocco claims sovereignty over the territory, while the Polisario Front, supported by Algeria, demands a referendum on self-determination. This "frozen conflict" remains a major source of tension in North Africa, affecting regional integration and stability.

134. (B) USA - Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti
Many extra-regional powers maintain military bases in Africa to protect their strategic interests. The United States operates Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti, which serves as a major hub for counter-terrorism operations in the Horn of Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. While other powers like China also have facilities in Djibouti, most other pairings, such as Russian or Indian submarine bases, are factually incorrect.

135. (D) 1, 2, 3 and 4
Extra-regional powers intervene in West Asia for several strategic reasons, including securing vital energy resources and combating transnational terrorism. They also act to protect allied states and counter the influence of rival great powers in the region. However, establishing formal colonial empires is no longer an objective in the twenty-first century, as influence is now typically exerted through indirect political and economic means.

136. (A) Egypt and Sudan
The construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the Blue Nile has created significant regional tension between Ethiopia and the downstream nations of Egypt and Sudan. Egypt, in particular, fears that the dam will reduce its essential water supply, which is critical for its agriculture and population. This dispute highlights the complex geopolitical challenges of managing shared water resources in arid regions.

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137. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
The African Union has established a Peace and Security Council as a central pillar of its regional security architecture, with the authority to intervene in conflicts. While the AU has successfully mediated several disputes and deployed peacekeeping missions, it has not been able to prevent all civil wars on the continent. Many conflicts remain persistent due to deep-seated local grievances and external factors.

138. (A) Armenia and Azerbaijan
The conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh was a long-standing territorial and ethnic dispute between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The region is internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan but was inhabited predominantly by ethnic Armenians and functioned as a self-declared republic for decades. The conflict led to multiple wars, most recently in 2020 and 2023, resulting in Azerbaijan regaining full control of the territory.

139. (D) Hegemonic rivalry
The competition between Saudi Arabia and Iran is a prime example of hegemonic rivalry, where two major regional powers vie for dominance and influence across the Middle East. This struggle manifests through proxy wars, ideological competition, and diplomatic maneuvering. Each state seeks to reshape the regional order to favor

its own security and political interests, often leading to increased instability in third countries.

140. (B) By incentivizing rebels to capture lucrative resource sites.
The "resource curse" fuels regional conflict by providing a lucrative incentive for rebel groups and insurgencies to capture and control resource-rich areas. The wealth generated from minerals, oil, or timber can be used to fund armed activities and sustain prolonged violence. This creates a cycle where the struggle for resource control undermines state authority and prevents the peaceful development of national wealth.

141. (C) Terrorism, Separatism, Extremism
The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is primarily focused on regional security and has identified "Terrorism, Separatism, and Extremism" as the "Three Evils" threatening its member states. By coordinating their security policies and sharing intelligence, SCO members aim to combat these transnational threats. This focus reflects the shared concerns of Central Asian nations and major powers like Russia and China regarding regional stability and sovereignty.

142. (D) India
The "Connect Central Asia" policy is a diplomatic initiative launched by India to enhance its political, economic, and security ties with the five Central Asian republics. This policy emphasizes cooperation in areas such as energy, IT, healthcare, and counter-terrorism. Through this initiative, India seeks to expand its strategic footprint in the region and secure alternative trade routes that bypass traditional land barriers.

143. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Inter-regional trade within Africa has historically been low compared to other continents because colonial infrastructure was designed for extraction. Railways and roads were typically built to connect inland mines and plantations directly to coastal ports for export to Europe, rather than linking neighboring African nations. This legacy left the continent with a fragmented transportation network that continues to hinder regional economic integration.

144. (B) Iraq and Yemen are full founding members.
The Gulf Cooperation Council was founded in 1981 by six monarchies: Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, and Bahrain. The organization was established partly as a collective response to the regional instability caused by the Iranian Revolution. While Iraq and Yemen are neighbors, they are not founding members, and Yemen's status has been limited to participation in specific functional committees.

145. (B) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Strategic initiatives are often proposed by global powers to expand their regional influence. The Belt and Road Initiative is a Chinese project, while the "Build Back Better World" is a G7/USA initiative. The Asia-Africa Growth Corridor is a collaborative effort between India and Japan. Meanwhile, the Eurasian Economic Union is a regional integration project spearheaded by Russia in the post-Soviet space.

146. (A) To spur sustainable economic development in member countries.
The African Development Bank is a multilateral financial institution dedicated to promoting sustainable economic growth and social progress across the continent. It provides loans, technical assistance, and policy advice to its member countries to support development projects in sectors like infrastructure, agriculture, and education. The AfDB's goal is to reduce poverty and improve the living standards of all Africans through regional cooperation.

147. (C) 1, 2 and 3
Strategic partnerships in West Asia are built around shared interests such as securing long-term energy supplies, defense cooperation, and combating transnational terrorism. These partnerships allow global powers to maintain regional stability and protect their strategic interests through collaboration with local states. However, these frameworks generally focus on cooperation with existing governments rather than mandating immediate regime change, which would be highly destabilizing.

148. (D) Collaboration among developing countries in the Global South.
South-South Cooperation refers to the technical and economic collaboration among

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114. (A) Hosni Mubarak - Ousted following popular uprisings.
The political transitions of several leaders followed very different paths. Hosni Mubarak was ousted from power in 2011 following massive popular uprisings in Egypt during the Arab Spring. In contrast, Muammar Gaddafi was killed during a civil war, Saddam Hussein was removed by external military intervention, and Robert Mugabe was forced to resign by his own party and the military.

115. (C) 1, 2, 4 and 5
Political regimes in post-independence Central Asia are typically characterized by a strong executive presidency and a relatively weak legislative branch. These governments often maintain control by suppressing opposition media and exercising significant state influence over key economic sectors. While instability exists, these states have not seen a high frequency of military coups, instead relying on centralized police and security apparatuses.

116. (D) Jordan
Jordan is a constitutional monarchy where the King holds significant executive and legislative power but operates within a defined constitutional framework. While the monarch remains the ultimate authority, the country has a parliament and a structured legal system. This differs from absolute monarchies like Saudi Arabia or republics like Syria and Yemen, which have historically featured different types of authoritarian or centralized rule.

117. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
Military coups have not been eradicated from the African continent in the twenty-first century; instead, recent years have seen a significant resurgence of military takeovers, particularly in the Sahel region. Countries like Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger have experienced coups that ousted civilian governments. These events highlight the persistent fragility of democratic institutions and the continuing role of the military in regional politics.

118. (B) Iran
The concept of Velayat-e Faqih, or the Guardianship of the Islamic Jurist, is the foundational ideological principle of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Established by Ayatollah Khomeini, it mandates that the government should be led or overseen by a leading Islamic scholar. This system ensures that religious authority has final say over political decisions, blending theocratic oversight with modern administrative and elective structures.

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119. (D) An ideology aiming to control all aspects of life.
Totalitarianism is distinguished from standard authoritarianism by its comprehensive aim to control all aspects of public and private life. Totalitarian regimes typically use a single state ideology, mass surveillance, and a cult of personality to achieve total societal mobilization. Unlike standard authoritarian regimes, which may allow for some apolitical space, totalitarian systems seek to eliminate any distinction between the state and the individual.

120. (A) Restrictions on liberal norms for regime stability.
The concept of "guided democracy" or "sovereign democracy" is often used by authoritarian or hybrid regimes to justify the limitation of liberal democratic norms. Leaders argue that these restrictions are necessary to maintain national stability, cultural integrity, or economic progress. By framing democracy as a locally adapted process, they can consolidate executive power and limit political opposition while still claiming to represent the popular will.

121. (C) Want
Human security is a broad concept that encompasses both "freedom from fear" and "freedom from want." Freedom from fear refers to the protection from physical violence and conflict, while freedom from want addresses the basic economic and social needs of individuals, such as food, health, and shelter. Together, these goals aim to ensure a comprehensive sense of safety and well-being for every person.

122. (A) Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM)
Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb is a major transnational non-state actor that poses a significant security threat across the Maghreb and Sahel regions. The group engages in various activities, including insurgent attacks, kidnappings for ransom, and trafficking, to fund

exacerbate existing socio-economic inequalities, as access to information and digital markets becomes essential for economic success. Rural and marginalized populations often lack the infrastructure and skills to participate in the digital economy, further increasing disparities.

157. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
Globalization has diminished the absolute sovereignty of West Asian states by creating deep international economic and political dependencies. However, these states have not completely lost control over their national borders; instead, they continue to exercise authority through surveillance and enforcement. The challenge lies in managing the flow of people, goods, and ideas in an increasingly interconnected and transparent global environment.

158. (D) Economic domination by corporations and core nations.
Neo-imperialism suggests that modern globalization allows for the economic domination of developing nations by large corporations and powerful core nations. This influence is exerted through control over international financial institutions, trade agreements, and resource extraction, rather than direct territorial conquest. Critics argue that this system maintains unequal power dynamics, keeping former colonies in a state of economic dependency on the global north.

159. (A) Dubai
Dubai is a prime example of a globalized hub that has successfully diversified its economy through transit trade, finance, and tourism. By establishing world-class infrastructure and a business-friendly environment, the city has attracted international capital and a diverse global workforce. This development illustrates how a strategic location and open-market policies can transform a regional center into a major node in the global economic network.

160. (B) They mandate privatization, which may weaken social safety nets.
Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs) mandated by global financial institutions often require African states to privatize public industries and reduce government spending to achieve fiscal stability. While these reforms aim to improve efficiency, they can weaken social safety nets and reduce the state's capacity to provide essential services to its citizens. This reduction in state presence can lead to increased social vulnerability and political unrest.

161. (B) Sea power
In Mackinder's Heartland Theory, the central pivot area of Eurasia was deemed impregnable to sea power because it was geographically isolated from the world's oceans. Mackinder argued that the vast landmass could be dominated by land forces and railways, making traditional naval dominance irrelevant in this specific core region. This theory emphasized the potential for a land-based power to achieve global hegemony.

162. (A) Suez Canal
The Suez Canal is a critical strategic waterway in Egypt that connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea. By providing the shortest maritime route between Europe and the lands lying around the Indian and western Pacific Oceans, it significantly reduces travel time for global trade. Its geographic location makes it one of the most important and sensitive chokepoints in international commerce.

163. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Africa's geopolitical importance is increasing in the twenty-first century because the continent possesses vast reserves of critical minerals like cobalt and lithium. These resources are essential for the production of green technologies and are vital components of global supply chains. As the world transitions toward sustainable energy, securing access to these African resources has become a major strategic priority for global powers.

164. (D) It enjoys unimpeded access to the world's major oceans.
Central Asia is a landlocked region that is rich in hydrocarbon resources and acts as a vital transit zone between major powers like Russia and China. It is also a focal point of the Belt and Road Initiative due to its strategic position. However, because it is entirely surrounded by land, it does not enjoy unimpeded access to the world's oceans.

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utilize the internet for recruitment, propaganda, and the coordination of attacks across borders. The connectivity of the globalized world allows these non-state actors to operate more effectively, presenting a significant challenge to regional and international security efforts.

217. (C) 1, 2 and 3
Globalization has impacted Central Asia through several mechanisms, including increased labor migration to Russia and the penetration of Chinese capital into the region's economy. It has also seen the introduction of Western non-governmental organizations that focus on various social and developmental issues. These factors have integrated the region into broader international networks, even as its political systems have largely maintained their authoritarian character.

218. (A) Worse development than resource-poor nations.
In a globalized world, the "Resource Curse" refers to the phenomenon where nations rich in primary commodities, such as oil or minerals, often experience poorer development outcomes than resource-poor countries. This is frequently due to corruption, the neglect of other economic sectors, and a lack of institutional reform. The focus on resource exports can lead to economic instability and hinder the growth of a diversified, modern economy.

219. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
Globalization does not distribute its economic benefits equally among all populations; instead, it often concentrates wealth in specific urban centers or industries. In many emerging economies, this process exacerbates the divide between modernized urban areas and marginalized rural regions. These inequalities can lead to social tensions and political unrest as different segments of the population experience very different outcomes from global economic integration.

220. (B) Neoliberal globalization
The proliferation of multi-national corporations in the African mining sector is a direct outcome of neoliberal globalization. This economic model emphasizes free markets, deregulation, and the promotion of foreign direct investment. By opening their resource sectors to international companies, many African states have integrated their economies into global production chains, although the domestic developmental benefits of these arrangements remain a subject of significant debate.

221. (C) The global shift toward renewable energy technology.
The global transition toward renewable energy technology represents a major external shock to the rentier economies of West Asia, which depend heavily on fossil fuel exports. As the world moves away from oil and gas, these nations face the prospect of declining revenues and the need for urgent economic diversification. This shift challenges the long-term sustainability of their existing economic and social structures in a globalized world.

222. (D) Financial and skill transfers
Diaspora populations contribute to the development of their home countries primarily through financial remittances and the transfer of valuable skills and knowledge. These contributions can support local businesses, fund education, and provide a critical source of foreign exchange for the national economy. Diasporas also act as cultural and economic bridges, facilitating international trade and investment between their host and home nations.

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223. (A) It provides loans conditional on economic reform.
The International Monetary Fund typically plays a role in African nations by providing loans to help manage balance of payment crises. These loans are usually conditional on the country implementing specific economic reforms, such as fiscal austerity or privatization, aimed at achieving long-term stability. While these programs provide essential capital, they are often criticized for their social impacts and their perceived intrusion on national sovereignty.

224. (B) Internet connectivity - Coordination of the Arab Spring protests
The coordination of the Arab Spring protests is a significant example of how internet connectivity and social media can facilitate rapid political mobilization. These digital tools allowed activists to bypass state-controlled media and organize

groundwork for many of the modern geopolitical tensions and conflicts seen in West Asia today.

174. (D) It was led by traditional tribal chiefs rather than educated elites.
Nationalism in Africa was often led by a new generation of Western-educated elites, including lawyers, teachers, and journalists, rather than traditional tribal chiefs alone. These leaders were influenced by global ideas of self-determination and utilized organizations like trade unions and student movements to mobilize the population. Their efforts aimed to dismantle colonial exploitation and achieve sovereign independence for their respective nations.

175. (A) 1, 2, 3 and 4
Many influential leaders were central to the rise of African nationalism and the struggle for independence. Patrice Lumumba in the Congo, Amílcar Cabral in Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, Jomo Kenyatta in Kenya, and Leopold Senghor in Senegal were all key figures. In contrast, Ho Chi Minh was a revolutionary leader in Vietnam, which is located in Southeast Asia, not Africa.

176. (B) Celebrate and validate African culture and identity.
Negritude was an ideological and literary movement that emerged in the mid-twentieth century among French-speaking African and Caribbean intellectuals. Its primary goal was to celebrate and validate African culture, identity, and heritage in response to French colonial assimilation policies. By asserting the value of black culture, the movement sought to restore pride and dignity to people of African descent worldwide.

177. (D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
The decolonization of Portuguese Africa, including Angola and Mozambique, was not peaceful. Instead, these territories achieved independence only in the 1970s after many years of protracted and violent armed struggles against the Portuguese colonial government. The eventual collapse of the authoritarian regime in Portugal in 1974 finally cleared the way for the withdrawal of colonial forces and the granting of independence.

178. (A) An anti-Soviet and pro-Islamic resistance movement.
The Basmachi movement was an anti-Soviet and pro-Islamic resistance movement that emerged in Central Asia following the Russian Revolution. The movement sought to maintain traditional religious and social structures against the imposition of Bolshevik rule. While it was eventually suppressed by the Soviet military, the Basmachi movement remains a significant symbol of regional resistance to external ideological and political control.

179. (C) Territorial claims based on shared ethnic identity.
Irredentism refers to territorial claims or movements that seek to annex land based on a shared ethnic, linguistic, or historical identity with the population living there. In post-colonial Africa, where many borders crosscut ethnic territories, irredentism has been a major barrier to nation-building and a frequent cause of regional conflict. These claims often challenge the territorial integrity of existing sovereign states.

180. (D) Pan-Arabism overriding state sovereignties.
The failure of the United Arab Republic, a short-lived union between Egypt and Syria, demonstrated the immense difficulty of pan-Arabism overriding individual state sovereignties. While the movement sought to unify Arab nations based on shared identity, political and economic differences eventually led to the union's collapse. This failure highlighted the persistent strength of state-based nationalism over broader regional unification efforts in West Asia.

181. (C) Traditional neighborhood local governance structures.
In Central Asia, particularly in Uzbekistan, the "Mahalla" refers to traditional neighborhood-level social and local governance structures. These units play a vital role in community life, managing local affairs, and providing social support to residents. Historically, the mahalla has been a central institution for maintaining social cohesion and traditional values within the broader urban and rural landscape of the region.

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199. (D) A fragile state cannot provide basic security.
In the context of security, a fragile state is distinguished by its inability to provide basic security and public services to its population. These states often lack the institutional capacity or legitimacy to maintain the rule of law or control their entire territory. This failure creates a vacuum that can be exploited by criminal networks and insurgent groups, leading to persistent instability and humanitarian crises.

200. (A) Advance the geopolitical interests of rival powers.
Sectarianism in West Asia is frequently weaponized by regional powers to advance their own geopolitical interests and expand their influence. By supporting co-religious factions in other countries, these states can engage in proxy competition and undermine their rivals. This practice intensifies local conflicts and makes a peaceful resolution more difficult, as internal disputes become part of a broader regional power struggle.

201. (C) United States
The 2003 invasion of Iraq was launched by a coalition led by the United States, with the stated goal of removing Saddam Hussein and eliminating suspected weapons of mass destruction. The invasion led to the quick collapse of the existing regime but sparked a long-term insurgency and significant regional instability. This intervention fundamentally altered the geopolitical landscape of the Middle East and remains a highly controversial event.

202. (A) Peacekeeping and attempting to organize referendums.
The role of the United Nations in regional conflicts like Western Sahara involves maintaining peacekeeping missions and attempting to facilitate a political resolution. The UN has long sought to organize a referendum on self-determination for the Sahrawi people, although this process has faced significant diplomatic hurdles. These efforts aim to prevent a return to active conflict while providing a platform for negotiated settlement between the parties.

203. (D) The 1929 and 1959 Nile Water Agreements
The sharing of Nile waters has been historically governed by agreements signed in 1929 and 1959, which granted Egypt and Sudan significant rights to the river's flow. These treaties were established during the colonial era and are now increasingly contested by upstream nations like Ethiopia. The current dispute over water rights highlights the challenges of modernizing old legal frameworks to reflect contemporary regional needs.

204. (B) Houthi rebellion - Yemen
The Houthi rebellion is a significant conflict centered in Yemen, where the insurgent group has seized large parts of the country. Other pairs are incorrectly matched: the Tigray conflict occurred in Ethiopia, Al-Shabaab is primarily active in Somalia, and Hamas is a Palestinian group in West Asia. Understanding these specific regional contexts is essential for analyzing the diverse security challenges across Africa and the Middle East.

205. (C) The division of seabed resources.
Resolving the legal status of the Caspian Sea was necessary to determine how its immense seabed oil and gas resources would be divided among the five littoral states. For decades, the lack of a formal agreement hindered the development of offshore fields and pipelines. The 2018 convention provided a framework for resource exploitation and maritime boundaries, facilitating further energy cooperation in the region.

206. (D) Maintain balance and secure alliances.
Extra-regional powers use arms sales to West Asian states as a strategic tool to maintain a favorable balance of power and secure long-term alliances. These transactions provide the supplier with economic benefits and political influence over the recipient's defense policy. Furthermore, these sales often include training and support agreements that deepen the security partnership between the global power and the regional state.

207. (A) 1, 3 and 4
The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is a major initiative of the African Union designed to boost intra-African trade and eliminate tariffs on most goods. By creating a unified market, the program aims to accelerate economic development and regional integration across the continent. While it seeks to integrate economies, it does not currently require the immediate abolition of all national currencies.

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and the establishment of a Jewish state. This movement arose in the late nineteenth century and culminated in the creation of the State of Israel in 1948. Zionism continues to be a central and defining force in the politics of the Middle East.

191. (A) Human security regarding food and livelihoods.
Environmental degradation, particularly desertification in the Sahel, primarily impacts human security by threatening food production and traditional livelihoods. As arable land is lost, competition for limited resources increases, often leading to displacement and local conflict. This highlights the direct link between environmental stability and the physical and economic well-being of populations in vulnerable regions.

192. (B) Cross-border terrorist infiltration
Cross-border terrorist infiltration represents a major external threat to state security in many African nations. These insurgent groups often exploit porous boundaries to launch attacks and seek refuge in neighboring countries, challenging the government's ability to maintain order. Managing these transnational threats requires regional cooperation and strong border security, which many fragile states struggle to provide effectively.

193. (B) Absolute state sovereignty
The concept of "Responsibility to Protect" (R2P) challenges traditional notions of absolute state sovereignty by asserting that the international community has a duty to intervene when a state fails to protect its population from mass atrocities. R2P suggests that sovereignty is not an unconditional right but carries responsibilities. This norm remains controversial, as it tensions the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states.

194. (A) Sectarianism is entirely absent in domestic politics.
Internal threats in West Asia are numerous and complex, including high youth unemployment, water scarcity, and a legitimacy deficit of various regimes. Sectarianism, far from being absent, is a major force in the domestic politics of several nations, often used by political actors to mobilize support or marginalize rivals. These internal challenges frequently overlap, creating a volatile environment that can spark protests and instability.

195. (C) 1, 2, 3 and 4
Human security encompasses several interconnected dimensions that focus on the well-being of individuals. These include economic, food, health, and environmental security. Together, these aspects aim to protect people from both physical threats and the chronic deprivations that hinder their ability to lead safe and productive lives. Achieving human security requires a broad and multi-sectoral approach to national and international development.

196. (D) West Africa (Lake Chad Basin)
The Boko Haram insurgency is a severe security threat centered in West Africa, particularly within the Lake Chad Basin region which includes parts of Nigeria, Niger, Chad, and Cameroon. The group's activities have led to thousands of deaths and the displacement of millions of people. Its presence challenges the authority of regional states and has created a protracted humanitarian crisis in the area.

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197. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
Transnational organized crime, including drug and human trafficking, weakens state institutions by fostering corruption and undermining the rule of law. These criminal networks operate across international borders, exploiting global financial and communication systems to conduct their illicit activities. Their presence is a major security concern for many nations, as it fuels violence and provides funding for non-state armed groups.

198. (B) Marginalization and resource competition.
The conflict in Darfur, Sudan, was primarily driven by the long-standing political and economic marginalization of the region and competition over limited land and water resources. These grievances led to a violent struggle between local rebel groups and the central government, resulting in a severe humanitarian crisis. This conflict illustrates how internal resource pressures and systemic inequality can lead to protracted and devastating violence.

182. (B) The state co-opts or suppresses independent associations.
Civil society is often weak in authoritarian West Asian regimes because the state actively co-opts or suppresses independent associations that could challenge its authority. By restricting the space for advocacy and pluralism, these regimes limit the ability of citizens to organize and demand political accountability. This control over social life is a central feature of authoritarian resilience, preventing the rise of independent political alternatives.

183. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Democratization in West Asia faces significant structural hurdles due to the existence of rentier state structures. Because these states rely on resource rents rather than domestic taxation, there is often less demand from the citizenry for political accountability and representation. The government's ability to provide public goods without taxing the population weakens the traditional social contract that typically drives democratic reform.

184. (A) Patrimonialism - Power flows from leaders, blurring private domains.
Patrimonialism is a form of governance where political power flows from the leader, and the distinction between public and private domains is often blurred. In such systems, the ruler manages the state as personal property, distributing resources and positions based on personal loyalty rather than institutional rules. This concept is essential for understanding the highly centralized and personalistic nature of many authoritarian regimes.

185. (C) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Post-independence developments are characterized by various complex phenomena. Balkanization involves the fragmentation of a state into smaller, often hostile units, while consociationalism is a power-sharing arrangement in divided societies. Clientelism refers to the exchange of goods and services for political support, and secessionism is the formal act of withdrawing from an existing state to achieve sovereign independence or greater autonomy.

186. (A) Turkey
Turkey is a Middle Eastern country where, for much of the twentieth century, the military was legally and constitutionally defined as the guardian of the state's secular principles. The armed forces frequently intervened in politics to prevent the rise of religious influence in government. However, this role has significantly diminished in recent years as civilian authorities have consolidated control over the military apparatus.

187. (D) 1, 2 and 4
A Rentier State is characterized by its high dependence on external resource rents, which allows the government to maintain low levels of taxation on its citizens. This wealth is often used to fund a large public sector that employs a significant portion of the population. While these features provide stability, they generally do not foster strong democratic accountability, as the state is financially independent from its citizenry.

188. (B) Coup d'état
A coup d'état is a political phenomenon where the military or another elite group overthrows a civilian government, often through the use or threat of force. This sudden and illegal seizure of power bypasses constitutional processes and leads to a change in leadership. Many post-colonial states have experienced coups as a result of weak institutional legitimacy and intense internal political competition.

189. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
The "Third Wave of Democratization" did not transform all Central Asian states into consolidated democracies; instead, many of these nations maintained or strengthened their authoritarian structures. Authoritarian resilience remains a dominant feature of the region, as leaders utilize various methods to consolidate power and limit political opposition. While some formal democratic institutions exist, they often function to legitimize centralized rule rather than promote pluralism.

190. (D) A nationalist ideology for a Jewish state.
Zionism is fundamentally defined in international politics as a nationalist ideology that advocates for the self-determination of the Jewish people

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208. (B) Debt trap diplomacy
China's Belt and Road Initiative in Africa has been criticized by some observers for potentially leading to "debt trap diplomacy." This occurs when countries take on massive loans for infrastructure projects that they may struggle to repay, potentially giving China significant political leverage. While these investments provide much-needed infrastructure, the long-term economic and sovereign implications of the resulting debt remain a subject of intense debate.

209. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Strategic partnerships between global powers and regional states are not always legally binding defense treaties. Instead, they often serve as flexible frameworks for cooperation on a wide range of shared interests, including defense, trade, and diplomacy. These arrangements allow states to coordinate their policies and provide mutual support without the formal and rigid obligations of a traditional military alliance.

210. (A) Turkmenistan
Turkmenistan is a Central Asian nation that has pursued a unique foreign policy of "Permanent Neutrality," which was formally recognized by the United Nations in 1995. This policy allows the country to avoid joining military alliances and avoid involvement in regional conflicts. Turkmenistan's neutrality is a central pillar of its national identity and its approach to international relations in a volatile region.

211. (C) Creating tension with traditional values.
Globalization impacts cultural identity in West Asia by introducing global norms and consumer cultures that can create tension with long-standing traditional and religious values. This interaction often leads to a complex process where local societies adapt to global influences while also experiencing a resurgence of traditional identities as a form of cultural protection. Globalization does not erase Islam but certainly reshapes its social context.

212. (D) Complex Interdependence
The integration of West Asian oil economies into the global market is best described by the concept of "Complex Interdependence." This theory suggests that states are linked through multiple channels and that their security and prosperity are mutually dependent. In this context, changes in the global energy market directly affect the economic and political stability of West Asian nations, while disruptions in regional supply impact global consumers.

213. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalization has facilitated the spread of democratic ideas in authoritarian states through the proliferation of the internet and social media. These digital platforms allow citizens to access information from around the world and communicate beyond the reach of traditional state-controlled media. This bypass of information monopolies can empower pro-democracy movements and provide new tools for political mobilization and advocacy in restrictive environments.

214. (B) It has made African economies entirely immune to global recessions.
While globalization has increased access to communication technologies and urbanization in Africa, it has not made the continent's economies immune to global recessions. On the contrary, increased integration means that African nations are more exposed to international economic shocks and fluctuations in commodity prices. This vulnerability highlights the risks that accompany the benefits of being part of a highly interconnected global trade and financial system.

215. (D) The adaptation of global ideas to local contexts.
Glocalization refers to the process where global ideas, products, or services are adapted to fit the specific needs and cultural characteristics of local communities. This allows global trends to be integrated into different societies without completely erasing their unique local identities. In business and politics, glocalization is a strategy used to make global concepts more acceptable and effective in diverse and sensitive regional environments.

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216. (A) It provides global financing and cyber tools.
Globalization has affected transnational terrorism in West and Central Asia by providing militant groups with access to global financing networks and sophisticated cyber tools. These organizations

233. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Nation-building in many West Asian states has been problematic because state boundaries often do not align with ethnic, tribal, or religious territories. These artificial borders, many of which were established during the colonial era, force diverse groups into single political entities. This can lead to competing loyalties and internal friction, making it difficult to foster a unified national identity that transcends local and communal allegiances.

234. (A) The region is an economic powerhouse of global high-tech manufacturing.
Central Asia's political economy is characterized by its reliance on primary resource exports, such as oil and uranium from Kazakhstan, and the significant role of remittances for countries like Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. While several nations have significant hydropower potential, the region is not an economic powerhouse of global high-tech manufacturing. Instead, it remains focused on integrating its energy and mineral resources into international markets.

235. (D) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
Understanding security requires correctly defining various conflict-related terms. Insurgency is an armed rebellion against a constituted authority, while terrorism involves violence against non-combatants for political aims. A proxy war is a conflict instigated by major powers that do not participate directly. Peacekeeping involves the deployment of international forces, often under the United Nations, to maintain peace and security in conflict-prone areas.

236. (B) It depletes the middle class needed for reform.
Brain drain impacts African democratization by depleting the professional middle class, which is often a key driver of political and social reform. When skilled individuals emigrate, the country loses the intellectual capital and economic stability required to build and sustain democratic institutions. This loss can weaken civil society and reduce the domestic pressure for good governance, thereby hindering the overall process of democratization.

237. (C) 1, 2 and 3
The African Union was established to replace the Organization of African Unity and has its headquarters in Addis Ababa. The AU embraces the principle of "non-indifference," which allows for regional intervention in member states facing severe conflict or mass atrocities. While it has several working languages, including English, it recognizes the linguistic diversity of the continent, aiming to promote unified action across its many sovereign states.

238. (D) Gamal Abdel Nasser
Pan-Arabism reached its peak influence in the mid-twentieth century under the leadership of Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt. Nasser's charismatic appeal and his advocacy for Arab unity against Western imperialism inspired millions across the region. While the movement faced significant challenges and eventual decline, Nasser remains the most iconic figure associated with the attempt to create a unified and sovereign Arab political identity.

239. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
Massive oil revenues in the Middle East have historically hindered democratization by allowing states to fund extensive security apparatuses and provide public goods without taxing their citizens. This financial independence from the population reduces the pressure for political accountability. Far from preventing states from funding security, resource wealth has been used to significantly expand military and police forces to ensure regime survival.

240. (B) Negotiated democratic transition.
The transition from apartheid to a multi-racial democracy in South Africa is a prime example of a negotiated democratic transition. Rather than through a military coup or complete state collapse, the change was achieved through intense internal and international pressure and formal negotiations between the apartheid government and opposition groups like the ANC. This process led to the historic 1994 elections and a new democratic constitution.

241. (B) Dutch Disease
"Dutch Disease" is an economic concept that describes the negative consequences of a sudden increase in a nation's income from a single

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mass demonstrations across the Middle East and North Africa. This impact illustrates how global technology can be used locally to challenge established political orders and advocate for significant societal and political change.

225. (B) Human capital and job creation.
Africa's "demographic dividend" refers to the potential for economic growth that arises from a large and growing working-age population. However, this dividend can only be realized if there is significant investment in human capital, such as education and healthcare, and the creation of sufficient jobs. In a globalized economy, these young workers must be equipped with the skills needed to compete in the international market.

226. (A) Through international pressure to adhere to norms.
Globalization challenges state sovereignty in the realm of human rights by exposing nations to intense international pressure to adhere to universal norms. International organizations, non-governmental groups, and foreign governments use various tools, including sanctions and diplomatic criticism, to encourage states to protect the rights of their citizens. This global scrutiny makes it increasingly difficult for authoritarian regimes to commit human rights violations without facing consequences.

227. (C) 1, 2 and 3
Extra-regional powers influence the Middle East through several mechanisms, including economic sanctions, military aid, and the maintenance of strategic bases. They also utilize their diplomatic power, such as vetoes in the UN Security Council, to protect their interests and allies. While these powers exert significant influence, they do not attempt to relocate their entire populations to the region, which is a factually incorrect and non-existent strategy.

228. (D) Influencing others through culture, political values, and foreign policies
"Soft power" refers to the ability of a state to influence the behavior and preferences of others through attraction rather than coercion. In strategic partnerships, this involves the use of culture, political values, and persuasive foreign policies to build support and cooperation. Unlike hard power, which relies on military and economic might, soft power aims to achieve national goals by winning the hearts and minds of people worldwide.

229. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Free trade zones are established by governments to attract foreign investment by offering special tax and customs exemptions for businesses operating within them. Far from isolating the host country, these zones are designed to deeply integrate the local economy into the global trade system. They serve as hubs for manufacturing and export, providing employment and fostering industrial growth through international economic connectivity.

230. (B) Securing overland energy transit routes.
A key strategic interest of China in Central Asia is securing overland energy transit routes that connect its territory to the region's oil and gas fields. These pipelines provide an alternative to maritime routes that could be vulnerable to disruption. Through the Belt and Road Initiative, China has invested heavily in infrastructure projects to ensure the stable and secure flow of energy to support its growing economy.

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231. (D) The Red Sea and Suez route.
The "Horn of Africa" is exceptionally geostrateic because it flanks the southern entrance to the Red Sea, directly oversight of the maritime route leading to the Suez Canal. This location is vital for global trade between Asia and Europe, making it a focal point for international maritime security. Any instability in this region can threaten the free flow of goods and energy through one of the world's busiest sea lanes.

232. (A) Western Sahara
The conflict in Western Sahara is a classic example of a "frozen conflict" where active fighting has largely ceased, yet no definitive political resolution has been reached. While a ceasefire has been in place for decades, the underlying dispute over sovereignty remains unresolved, continuing to affect regional security and integration in North Africa. Such conflicts create persistent uncertainty and hinder the long-term stability of the involved nations.

165. (C) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
Understanding the geopolitical map involves correctly identifying countries within their sub-regions. Tajikistan is located in Central Asia, while Oman sits on the Arabian Peninsula. Mali is a key state in the Sahel and West Africa region. Finally, Angola is a major nation in Southern Africa. These geographic classifications are essential for analyzing regional political and economic dynamics.

166. (B) Shifting US strategic focus away from the Middle East.
The US "Pivot to Asia" strategy, launched during the Obama administration, aimed to rebalance American foreign policy toward the Indo-Pacific region. This shift implied a reduction in the relative strategic focus on the Middle East as the US sought to counter the rising influence of China. This change in priority had significant implications for US regional alliances and its military presence in West Asia.

167. (D) 2, 3 and 4
Several critical maritime chokepoints are located in or immediately adjacent to the Middle East and North Africa. These include the Bab el-Mandeb, the Strait of Hormuz, and the Bosporus. In contrast, the Strait of Malacca is located in Southeast Asia, between Indonesia and Malaysia. These waterways are vital for the global transit of energy and goods, making them geostrategic hotspots.

168. (A) Increased maritime boundary disputes among regional states.
The discovery of large offshore gas fields in the Eastern Mediterranean has led to increased maritime boundary disputes among regional states like Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, and Egypt. Each nation seeks to secure its rights to these valuable energy resources, leading to diplomatic tensions and occasional military posturing. These disputes highlight how natural resource wealth can complicate regional relations and international maritime law.

169. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Sub-Saharan Africa's geopolitics is significantly affected by the presence of non-state armed actors, which challenge state authority and regional stability. The spread of insurgencies, particularly in the Sahel, poses a threat to both local security and international interests. These groups exploit weak governance and porous borders, making their activities a major concern for global powers involved in counter-terrorism and regional stabilization efforts.

170. (A) Belgium
The territory that is now the Democratic Republic of Congo was previously controlled by Belgium, initially as the personal property of King Leopold II and later as a formal colony. This colonial era was marked by extreme exploitation and violence, the effects of which continue to influence the country's political and social landscape. The DRC's path to independence and its subsequent challenges are deeply rooted in this legacy.

171. (D) British
The Balfour Declaration was a public statement issued by the British government in 1917, expressing support for a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine. This declaration had profound long-term consequences for the region, influencing the Zionist movement and the eventual creation of the State of Israel. It remains a central and highly debated document in the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

172. (B) Lord Lugard (Britain)
"Indirect Rule" was a colonial administrative policy most heavily associated with Lord Lugard and British rule in Africa. This approach involved governing colonized populations through their existing traditional leaders and social structures. By co-opting local elites, the British aimed to maintain order and extract resources with minimal administrative costs. This policy often reinforced traditional hierarchies while integrating them into the colonial system.

173. (C) The division of the Arab provinces into spheres of influence.
The Sykes-Picot Agreement was a secret 1916 pact that divided the Arab provinces of the Ottoman Empire into British and French spheres of influence. This division was made without the consent of the local populations and disregarded ethnic and religious realities. The resulting borders and administrative structures laid the

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primary commodity export, such as oil. This influx of wealth can lead to an appreciation of the national currency, making other sectors like manufacturing less competitive. This vulnerability highlights the risks of over-dependence on natural resources in a highly integrated and volatile global market.

242. (A) It exacerbates existing resource scarcities.
Climate change acts as a "threat multiplier" in West Asia and Africa by exacerbating existing scarcities of vital resources like water and arable land. As temperatures rise and weather patterns become more unpredictable, the resulting food and water insecurity can lead to displacement and intensified competition among different groups. These environmental pressures can ignite new conflicts or worsen existing tensions, challenging regional and international security efforts.

243. (C) Electoral integrity and democratization.
The "Color Revolutions" in the post-Soviet space, including Central Asia, were a series of pro-democracy movements that primarily demanded electoral integrity and political liberalization. These protests targeted entrenched authoritarian regimes and corrupt electoral practices, seeking to establish more transparent and accountable governance. While they had varying degrees of long-term success, they highlighted the growing popular demand for democratic reform across the formerly Soviet republics.

244. (D) CENTCOM - US military command for the region.
Extra-regional powers utilize specific military commands to manage their strategic operations. CENTCOM is the United States military command responsible for the Middle East and Central Asia. In contrast, AFRICOM focuses on the African continent. Other organizations like NATO are regional alliances that do not consist exclusively of African states, and BRICS is a group of major emerging economies focused on economic rather than purely military cooperation.

245. (C) 1, 2 and 3
Regional cooperation in the Middle East is hindered by deep-seated mistrust among rival states and significant disparities in national wealth. Additionally, the presence of very different political systems, ranging from absolute monarchies to republics, makes it difficult to establish a unified policy framework. While some integration exists, the region lacks a shared, unified currency, which remains a distant goal for regional organizations like the GCC.

246. (B) The state's monopoly on legitimate violence.
The presence of foreign mercenaries and private military companies in African conflicts undermines the state's traditional monopoly on the legitimate use of violence. These actors often operate outside of national and international legal frameworks, complicating efforts to achieve stability and political resolution. Their involvement can prolong conflicts and challenge the authority of the central government, making it more difficult to establish a secure and sovereign national environment.

247. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
Strategic partnerships are not always formal, legally binding mutual defense treaties. Instead, they often represent flexible and informal frameworks for cooperation on a range of shared interests without the rigid obligations of a traditional alliance. These partnerships allow global and regional powers to coordinate their actions and support each other's interests in a more adaptable manner, reflecting the complex and evolving nature of modern international relations.

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248. (A) The late 19th-century European colonization.
The "Scramble for Africa" refers to the period in the late nineteenth century when European powers rapidly colonized and partitioned the African continent. This competition for territory and resources was formalized during the Berlin Conference and resulted in the creation of numerous artificial borders. This era of intense imperial expansion fundamentally reshaped the political and social geography of Africa, leaving a legacy that persists today.

249. (C) Shifting focus to export-oriented cash crops.
Economic globalization has impacted African agriculture by encouraging a shift away from traditional subsistence farming toward export-oriented cash crops. This change integrates local farmers into global markets but also makes them more vulnerable to fluctuations in international

commodity prices. While it can generate revenue, this focus can also lead to food insecurity as land and resources are diverted from producing essential local food supplies.

250. (A) It pushed for free-market policies and reform.
The Washington Consensus refers to a set of neoliberal economic policy prescriptions for developing countries that gained prominence in the late twentieth century. It emphasizes market-oriented reforms such as macroeconomic stabilization, trade liberalization, and the privatization of state enterprises. These policies were often promoted by international financial institutions as essential steps for achieving sustainable growth and integrating developing economies into the global market.

251. (B) Their strategic vulnerability and diplomatic leverage
Geographic placement serves as a primary factor in determining the degree of exposure to external risks and the capacity to negotiate on the global stage. This spatial orientation influences how nations interact with neighbors and international allies. Consequently, location dictates the specific security challenges and the political influence a territory can project globally in a competitive and shifting environment.

252. (A) Control over transit corridors and natural resources
Beyond mere boundary lines, the broader strategic landscape encompasses the authority over essential trade routes and the management of significant raw materials. These elements heighten a region's international importance and influence. Mastery over such assets allows states to exert power beyond their borders, making geography a dynamic tool for global competition and the pursuit of national interests and stability.

253. (C) To balance sovereign economic interests with external strategic pressures
National leaders face the constant challenge of reconciling their country's financial goals with the geopolitical demands imposed by nearby powers. This balancing act is essential for maintaining autonomy while responding to external security threats. Failure to manage these competing priorities can lead to economic instability or a loss of sovereign control over regional affairs, highlighting the difficulties of governance.

254. (D) Formulating national defense and foreign policy frameworks
The surrounding political and geographic landscape serves as the foundation for creating security strategies and diplomatic agendas. National survival depends on aligning defense capabilities and international relations with the realities of the local environment. By prioritizing these frameworks, states can better navigate the complexities of global power shifts and protect their specific interests effectively against both internal and external threats.

255. (C) Because their strategic value attracts competing interests
Prime locations with significant tactical value often draw the attention of multiple international actors seeking to gain an advantage. This attraction turns favorable geographic features into sites of intense competition and conflict. As global powers vie for control, local assets become central to larger geopolitical struggles, complicating the stability and security of the region while increasing its overall global importance.

256. (B) They disrupted orders and left institutional fragmentation
Historical colonial governance systems often overthrew established social and political hierarchies within indigenous populations. This interference led to a breakdown of traditional authority and the creation of disconnected institutional frameworks. Such fragmentation continues to impact the ability of newly independent nations to form cohesive government systems and maintain social order while attempting to build strong and sustainable national foundations.

257. (D) It served as the ideological framework for unification
Shared identity and a desire for self-determination provided the necessary cohesion for diverse groups to resist foreign rule. This ideological force acted as a bridge across social divides, focusing collective energy toward the goal of independence. By fostering a sense of common purpose, nationalist movements were able to

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challenge the legitimacy and control of colonial powers and mobilize the entire populace.

258. (A) By strategic negotiations and grassroots mobilization
The struggle for sovereignty involved a combination of high-level diplomatic discussions and the active participation of the general public. These efforts required careful planning and the engagement of ordinary citizens to create a powerful force for change. The resulting political awareness reshaped the populace, making them active participants in the formation of their new national identity and the future state.

259. (C) It often faced severe strain and inherent challenges
Once the common goal of removing colonial rulers was met, the internal differences among various factions often resurfaced. The bond that held diverse groups together weakened during the transition to self-rule. This lack of cohesion presented significant difficulties for new leaders attempting to establish stable governance and manage the competing interests of a liberated but deeply divided domestic society.

260. (A) Deep socio-economic inequalities
Newly sovereign nations often began their independence with significant disparities in wealth and access to resources created during colonial rule. These imbalances were rooted in exploitative economic systems that favored specific groups or areas. Addressing these long-standing inequalities remains a critical hurdle for developing states as they attempt to build fair and sustainable domestic economies and promote national social harmony.

261. (D) Creating functional institutional capacities and legal frameworks
The development of a state involves establishing the core systems required for effective governance and public service delivery. This process emphasizes the construction of bureaucracy and the rule of law to manage social order. Strong institutional foundations ensure that the government can fulfill its responsibilities and maintain authority over its territory through organized and efficient administration and clear legal protocols.

262. (B) Forging a cohesive national identity from diversity
Creating a sense of belonging among varied social groups is central to forming a stable and unified nation. This effort focuses on building a shared identity that transcends ethnic or regional differences. By fostering cultural and psychological bonds, leaders attempt to minimize internal conflict and generate the collective support necessary for long-term political stability and social development for everyone.

263. (C) Weak foundations and competing factional loyalties
Establishing democratic governance is difficult when the underlying state structures are fragile and citizens prioritize local groups over national interests. These factors prevent the development of a fair political system where multiple viewpoints can coexist. Without strong institutions and a unified commitment to the state, factionalism often leads to instability and undermines the growth of representative democracy and institutional accountability.

264. (D) By centralizing power, restricting participatory requirements
When a government quickly concentrates authority to strengthen its administrative capacity, it may limit the opportunities for citizens to participate in decision-making. This centralisation of control often comes at the expense of democratic principles that require broad public engagement. Consequently, the drive for efficient state management can inadvertently create authoritarian structures that suppress political diversity and restrict the rights of individuals.

265. (A) Because they see threats to their traditional authority
Powerful groups often view the shift toward a more inclusive and representative government as a danger to their existing status and control. Democratic reforms typically redistribute power, which challenges the dominance of those who have long held influence. To protect their interests, these elites may actively block or subvert efforts to establish democratic institutions and more transparent and inclusive political processes.

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(B) It bordered countries in the Middle East, such as Iran and Turkey.
(C) It utilized its vast territory as a mechanism for strategic depth.
(D) It had the world's longest, year-round navigable coastline.

15. The "Kaliningrad exclave" is most strategically critical to Russia because:
(A) It serves as an ice-free port on the Baltic Sea near NATO.
(B) It provides Russia with its only direct land border with China.
(C) It is the primary agricultural hub for the Russian Federation.
(D) It contains the bulk of Russia's Siberian oil reserves.

16. What was the primary political ideology that fueled the fragmentation of the Austro-Hungarian Empire?
(A) Neoliberalism
(B) Nationalism
(C) Utopian Socialism
(D) Mercantilism

17. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The Industrial Revolution in Europe drastically altered state power dynamics by linking military capabilities to industrial output.
Statement II: State building in 19th-century Europe was entirely independent of technological and industrial advancements.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

18. Which of the following is an incorrect pair regarding European unification movements in the 19th century?
(A) Klemens von Metternich - Greek Independence
(B) Otto von Bismarck - German Unification
(C) Giuseppe Garibaldi - Italian Unification
(D) Camillo Cavour - Italian Unification

19. A key consequence of the Industrial Revolution on European geopolitics was the shift from agrarian economies to industrialized urban centers. How did this impact European external relations?
(A) It led to a total withdrawal from global trade to focus on internal markets.
(B) It resulted in a permanent era of absolute peace known as the Pax Europaea.
(C) It drove new imperialism to secure raw materials and markets.
(D) It caused European powers to dismantle their entire naval fleets.

20. Which of the following is an exception to the general trends of 19th-century European state building?
(A) Consolidation of smaller principalities into nation-states
(B) Expansion of centralized administrative bureaucracies
(C) Development of national infrastructure, such as railways
(D) Total elimination of internal linguistic and cultural identities

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21. Nationalism, in the context of 19th-century Europe, is best defined as:
(A) Belief in an absolute monarchy devoid of any citizen participation
(B) Economic theory advocating for state control over all production
(C) Ideology that the nation and state should be congruent
(D) Promotion of open borders and the dissolution of sovereign states

22. What was a major socio-economic effect of the Industrial Revolution that influenced European political alliances?
(A) The eradication of class divides
(B) The emergence of a powerful industrial bourgeoisie and organized labor movements
(C) The return to feudal land ownership models
(D) The complete collapse of the banking sector

23. Identify the correct statement regarding European state building in the 19th century.

long-term security of the national government apparatus and social order.

275. (C) The link between state protection and individual livelihoods
Ensuring national stability requires understanding that the strength of the government is tied to the well-being of its citizens. Leaders must address both traditional military defense and the social needs of the people to achieve lasting peace. By protecting individual livelihoods, the state builds the resilience and support necessary to withstand both internal and external threats to its security and sovereignty.

276. (A) Extra-regional powers maximizing strategic influence
The involvement of powerful nations from outside a region often worsens local disputes. These external actors provide resources and support to local factions to advance their own global interests. This intervention keeps conflicts going longer than they might otherwise, as it introduces new motivations and resources that prevent a quick resolution between the primary local parties involved in the disagreement.

277. (D) To balance rivals and secure strategic assets
Outside nations often participate in distant disputes to counter their international competitors and gain control over valuable resources or locations. Their actions are driven by a desire to strengthen their own position on the global stage rather than solving the local problem. This strategic competition turns regional issues into parts of a larger game between major global powers and interests.

278. (B) It makes conflicts intractable and resistant to mediation
The participation of global powers adds layers of complexity to local issues, making them much harder to solve. Standard peace-making efforts often fail because the interests of these external actors must also be satisfied. As a result, conflicts become more stubborn and less likely to be settled through simple negotiations between the original groups involved in the regional dispute.

279. (C) They leverage involvement to strengthen negotiations
Groups within a conflict frequently use the support of outside nations to gain an advantage over their rivals. By aligning with powerful external allies, they can demand more in negotiations and resist pressure to compromise. This tactic complicates the peace process by making local factions more rigid and dependent on the goals and resources of their foreign supporters and sponsors.

280. (D) Resolutions must satisfy both regional and external interests
Settlements in these regions are difficult to maintain because they must please both the local groups and the powerful nations supporting them. If any major player feels their interests are not met, the agreement may collapse. This dual requirement for satisfaction makes the path to lasting peace extremely complicated and prone to failure when global or local political priorities shift.

281. (A) It acts as a mechanism for integrating localized markets
By connecting nearby markets, nations can create a more stable economic environment that is less affected by changes in the global economy. This integration allows for better cooperation and more efficient use of local resources. Strengthening these internal trade links helps regional economies become more resilient and less vulnerable to outside financial shocks and disruptions in distant supply networks.

282. (B) It shares expertise and resources to harmonize standards
Collaborative efforts between states are essential for aligning rules and improving the physical structures needed for trade. By sharing knowledge and resources, countries can work together more effectively and create a unified system for economic interaction. This cooperation builds the necessary skills and facilities within each nation to participate fully in the regional market and achieve shared economic growth.

283. (B) To safeguard economic gains against geopolitical uncertainties
Nations create formal agreements to protect their financial interests from the unpredictable nature of international politics. These alliances provide

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a framework for long-term cooperation and help manage risks that could disrupt trade and development. By solidifying these bonds, states ensure that their economic progress is backed by a mutual commitment to security and political alignment across the entire region.

284. (A) It embeds economic ties within a broader security consensus
Unlike simple trade agreements, these deeper alliances include commitments to security and foreign policy goals. They create a more comprehensive relationship where economic cooperation is supported by shared political values and defense strategies. This holistic approach ensures that the partnership is more durable and capable of addressing a wider range of challenges that might face the participating sovereign nations.

285. (C) To drive prosperity and collectively deter external coercion
The goal of integrating trade, cooperation, and partnerships is to build a strong system that promotes wealth and protects against outside pressure. This unified structure helps states work together to resist attempts by larger powers to influence their domestic affairs. By building collective strength, regions can achieve lasting economic success and maintain their political independence in a competitive environment.

286. (D) A double-edged sword driving integration and disruptions
Increased global connectivity brings both positive growth and negative social and economic changes to developing nations. While it allows for better access to world markets and technology, it can also cause significant problems for local communities and businesses. Managing this complex mix of benefits and challenges is a primary task for governments trying to modernize their countries in the current era.

287. (C) Influx of foreign investment and technological advancements
Nations can experience faster economic development through the arrival of international capital and modern technical knowledge. Being part of the global financial system provides the resources needed to upgrade industries and improve national infrastructure. These advantages help transitional economies grow more quickly and compete more effectively on the international stage, provided they manage the associated risks carefully and strategically.

288. (B) Displacement of traditional sectors due to competition
Opening up markets to global trade can hurt local businesses that are unable to compete with large international corporations. This often leads to the decline of traditional jobs and industries that have existed for generations. Such economic shifts can cause significant social stress and require the government to create new support systems for affected workers and communities within the nation.

289. (D) It restricts it by forcing alignment with market imperatives
Global economic pressures often force nations to change their laws and regulations to attract foreign investors. This means governments have less freedom to make independent choices about their own domestic policies. To stay competitive and receive international funding, states must follow the rules and expectations of the global market, which can sometimes conflict with local needs and political goals.

290. (A) Harnessing benefits while mitigating social disparities
Leaders must find ways to gain the advantages of being part of the global economy while also dealing with the resulting inequality and cultural changes. This involves creating policies that spread wealth more fairly and protect local traditions from being lost. Balancing these competing needs is essential for maintaining social stability and ensuring that the entire country benefits from global connections.

291. (C) Their ability to deliver growth and manage internal factionalism
A government's survival often depends on its success in improving the economy and keeping different domestic groups from fighting. If people see their lives getting better and the country remains peaceful, they are more likely to support the existing system. Failure in either of these areas can lead to a loss of public trust and the eventual collapse of the regime.

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292. (A) Economic crises that tested initial democratic frameworks
When new democracies face serious financial problems, they may struggle to maintain order and provide services. In these difficult times, leaders may move toward more controlling forms of government to restore stability. This shift is often seen as a way to handle the crisis more effectively than the more open and potentially slower democratic processes would allow at that time.

293. (D) By emphasizing internal security and rapid industrialization
Governments that limit political freedoms often argue that they need total control to keep the country safe and to develop the economy quickly. They claim that too much political debate would slow down progress and make the nation vulnerable to threats. By focusing on these goals, they attempt to convince the public that their style of rule is necessary.

294. (B) Constitutional law
In many cases, maintaining power and authority became more important than following the rules set out in the constitution. Leaders would ignore or change legal frameworks if they felt their position was being threatened. This focus on survival over law meant that the formal rules of government often mattered less than the practical needs of those in charge of the state.

295. (C) Profound crises of legitimacy
Governments that cannot fix a failing economy or respond to the needs of a growing population often lose the right to rule in the eyes of the people. This loss of trust can lead to widespread protests and challenges to the regime's authority. Without legitimacy, it becomes much harder for the state to govern and maintain order without using force.

296. (D) Communal violence and protests over resource allocation
When essential items like water or land become scarce, different groups within a country may fight each other to get what they need. This often leads to anger at the government for not distributing resources fairly. These conflicts and protests can weaken the state's authority and create significant domestic instability, making it difficult for the national government to maintain peace.

297. (A) By causing neighbors to compete over shared resources
Countries often disagree and even come into conflict when they have to share limited natural resources that cross their borders. The struggle to secure these assets can lead to hostile relations and military build-ups. As resources become harder to find, the competition between nations increases, making the region more dangerous and prone to international disputes over territory and resource ownership.

298. (B) It destroys livelihoods and accelerates migrations
When people cannot get the basic things they need to survive, they lose their ability to work and support themselves. This desperation often forces large numbers of people to leave their homes in search of a better life elsewhere. Such mass movements of people can create new social and economic problems for both their home countries and the places where they move.

299. (B) Human security erosion creates new internal threats
If a government ignores why resources are disappearing, the suffering of the people will only get worse. This ongoing hardship leads to more social unrest and new challenges to the state's power. The cycle of resource loss and human suffering keeps creating more instability, making it harder for the government to fix any of the problems and ensuring the crisis continues.

300. (A) Policies that neutralize threats and secure human security
For a country to last, it must protect itself from outside enemies while also making sure its citizens have what they need to live. This means the government must focus on both military defense and environmental and economic health. By protecting both the state and its people, leaders can build a stable and secure future for their whole nation.

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CHAPTER 09

Europe and Erstwhile Soviet Union/Russia

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1. Which of the following geopolitical theories explicitly identified the geographical pivot of history primarily within the erstwhile Soviet Union's territory?
(A) Rimland Theory
(B) Heartland Theory
(C) Sea Power Theory
(D) Organic State Theory

2. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The Heartland Theory suggests that whoever controls Eastern Europe commands the Heartland.
Statement II: The Rimland Theory posits that the coastal fringes of Eurasia are more crucial for global dominance than the Heartland.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

3. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The geostrategic environment of Russia has historically driven it to seek warm-water ports.
Reason (R): Russia's northern coastlines are largely frozen for a significant part of the year, limiting year-round maritime trade and naval operations.
In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

4. Which of the following is NOT a geopolitical feature of the European continent?
(A) A very high degree of coastal articulation and maritime accessibility
(B) The presence of major navigable and interconnected river systems
(C) Significant geographical proximity to the Middle East and North Africa
(D) A landlocked geography with no direct ocean access

5. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Geopolitical Thinkers)
P. Halford Mackinder
Q. Nicholas Spykman
R. Alfred Thayer Mahan
S. Friedrich Ratzel
List II: (Theories/Concepts)
1. Lebensraum
2. Influence of Sea Power
3. Heartland Theory
4. Rimland Theory
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

6. Identify the correct statement regarding the geostrategic position of the erstwhile Soviet Union.
(A) It possessed no significant landmass or territory within Asia.
(B) It spanned eleven time zones, offering depth and challenges.
(C) It was fortified by natural mountain borders on its western front.
(D) It relied on the Indian Ocean for all strategic naval deployments.

7. Consider the following statements about European Geopolitics:
1. The North European Plain has historically been a corridor for invasions into Russia.
2. The Alps form a natural barrier protecting the Italian peninsula from northern Europe.
3. The Baltic Sea provides year-round, ice-free access for the Russian Navy.
4. The Bosporus Strait controls maritime access from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3
(B) 2, 3, and 4
(C) 1, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 2, and 4

8. Which of the following correctly pairs a geographic feature with its geopolitical significance in the Europe-Russia dynamic?
(A) Ural Mountains - Geographic boundary between Europe and Asia
(B) Carpathian Mountains - Barriers to all regional natural gas pipelines
(C) Black Sea - Exclusive maritime domain controlled by the European Union
(D) North Sea - Zone for recurring Russo-Chinese joint naval maneuvers

9. Arrange the following geopolitical developments involving Europe and Russia in chronological order:
1. Formation of the Warsaw Pact
2. Dissolution of the Soviet Union
3. Reunification of Germany
4. Creation of NATO

Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?
(A) 4, 1, 3, 2
(B) 1, 4, 3, 2
(C) 4, 3, 1, 2
(D) 1, 3, 4, 2

10. The lack of natural defensive borders in Eastern Europe directly caused which of the following historical geopolitical strategies by Russia?
(A) The creation of buffer states in Eastern Europe
(B) The abandonment of a standing army
(C) The total demilitarization of the Russian western frontier
(D) The exclusive reliance on naval deterrence

11. Consider the following statements regarding the geopolitical setting of Europe:
1. It is a peninsula of peninsulas.
2. It has historically benefited from an extensive network of navigable rivers like the Rhine and Danube.
3. Its fragmented geography contributed to the development of multiple independent nation-states.
4. It features a unified, unbroken plain from Spain to the Urals.
5. Control over chokepoints like Gibraltar has been historically vital for its maritime security.

Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) 1, 3, 4, and 5
(B) 2, 3, 4, and 5
(C) 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 5

12. In geopolitical terms, "Balkanization" is defined as:
(A) The unification of smaller states into a larger supranational union
(B) Fragmentation into smaller, mutually hostile regions or states
(C) Diplomatic resolution of border disputes in mountainous regions
(D) Expansion of maritime power through the acquisition of archipelagos

13. Read the following case and answer the question that follows:
Country X spans a vast continuous landmass with immense natural resources but struggles with an aging demographic and limited access to warm-water ports. It relies heavily on energy exports to neighboring regions to maintain its geopolitical influence.
Based on the geostrategic setting of Europe and its neighbors, Country X most likely represents:
(A) United Kingdom
(B) France
(C) Russian Federation
(D) Germany

14. Which of the following statements about the geopolitical setting of the erstwhile Soviet Union is incorrect?
(A) It encompassed both Eastern Europe and Northern Asia.

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266. (B) Because leaders prioritized stability and modernization over pluralism
In many new states, the urgent need for economic progress and internal security led officials to favor centralized authority. They believed that democratic processes might be too slow or divisive to achieve immediate developmental goals. By choosing stability and growth over diversity in political thought, these regimes often transitioned into more controlled and less representative forms of national and local governance.

267. (B) Civil liberties, economic centralization, and institutional autonomy
The type of government in power determines the level of freedom granted to individuals and the degree of state control over the economy. Furthermore, it defines how much independence various public organizations and branches of government possess. These factors are critical in shaping the overall development and administrative character of a nation during its post-independence period of growth and social transition.

268. (A) The military's role or single-party dominance
Strengthening a particular government structure often relied on either the support of the armed forces or the absolute control of one political group. These entities provided the necessary force or political organization to maintain power and suppress opposition. Their dominance ensured that the regime could implement its policies without significant challenge from other social or political factions or external actors.

269. (C) By citing their links to the independence struggle
Political groups often use their historical involvement in the fight for sovereignty to justify their right to rule. By positioning themselves as the primary liberators of the nation, they attempt to secure the loyalty and support of the populace. This connection to the birth of the state serves as a powerful tool for maintaining authority and marginalizing any political rivals.

270. (D) Variation in established political regimes
The diversity in how governments are structured and managed leads to different outcomes in public service delivery and accountability. Some political systems are better at creating efficient bureaucracies, while others may suffer from corruption or lack of transparency. These differences are rooted in the specific nature of the political authority established following the achievement of national sovereignty and administrative independence.

271. (C) Armed insurgencies and institutional corruption
Domestic challenges such as violent uprisings and dishonest government practices can significantly weaken a state's control and stability. These issues erode the trust between citizens and the government, making it harder to maintain national unity. When authority is undermined from within, the state becomes more vulnerable to other forms of instability and loses its capacity to govern and protect effectively.

272. (B) Safety, economic well-being, and social stability
This concept focuses on the protection and prosperity of people rather than just the defense of borders. It emphasizes that individuals need to feel safe from violence, have financial security, and live in a stable society to thrive. By focusing on the person, this approach highlights the essential requirements for a healthy and productive population within any secure nation-state environment.

273. (D) The state's capacity to provide human security diminishes
When a government cannot protect its territory or maintain order, it loses the ability to ensure the safety and welfare of its citizens. The resulting instability often leads to the breakdown of essential services and the displacement of people. Without a secure state environment, the basic needs of the population cannot be met, causing a decline in overall human welfare and prosperity.

274. (A) They catalyze internal threats via localized grievances
When people suffer from extreme poverty or lack of social support, they often become dissatisfied with the government. These local frustrations can lead to protests, social unrest, and even armed conflict against the state. Addressing the needs of the population is therefore essential for preventing domestic instability and ensuring the

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(A) It relied solely on peaceful diplomatic treaties without any military conflicts.
(B) It led to the immediate dissolution of the British Empire.
(C) It was universally opposed by the rising industrial capitalist class.
(D) It was influenced by conscription and mass citizen armies.

24. A student is analyzing the relationship between nationalism and the outbreak of World War I. Which competency demonstrates a correct understanding of this relationship?
(A) Identifying Serbian nationalism as a catalyst for the war.
(B) Claiming French nationalism sought to surrender Alsace-Lorraine to Germany.
(C) Arguing British nationalism sought to dissolve its empire to prevent war.
(D) Stating that Russian nationalism rejected the concept of Pan-Slavism.

25. Which of the following represents the most appropriate characterization of the impact of the Industrial Revolution on the Russian Empire by the late 19th century?
(A) Russia became the most highly industrialized nation in Europe, surpassing Britain.
(B) Russia experienced rapid state-led industrialization but remained agrarian.
(C) Russia experienced rapid industrialization while remaining agrarian.
(D) Russia's industrialization was driven entirely by indigenous democratic institutions.

26. Who formulated the principle of "National Self-Determination" that significantly influenced European borders after World War I?
(A) Woodrow Wilson
(B) Winston Churchill
(C) Vladimir Lenin
(D) Georges Clemenceau

27. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The Treaty of Versailles successfully integrated Germany into the new European democratic order without imposing punitive measures.
Statement II: The League of Nations lacked an armed force of its own and depended on member states to enforce its resolutions.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

28. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The inter-war period in Europe saw a rapid rise of totalitarian and fascist regimes.
Reason (R): Severe economic instability, exacerbated by the Great Depression, undermined public faith in fragile democratic institutions.
In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

29. Which of the following was NOT a state newly created or reconstituted in Europe immediately following World War I?
(A) Poland
(B) Czechoslovakia
(C) Spain
(D) Yugoslavia

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30. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Pacts/Treaties of Inter-War Europe)
P. Locarno Treaties (1925)
Q. Kellogg-Briand Pact (1928)
R. Treaty of Rapallo (1922)
S. Munich Agreement (1938)
List II: (Core Objectives)
1. Renunciation of war as an instrument of national policy
2. Annexation of the Sudetenland by Germany
3. Mutual recognition and renunciation of claims between Germany and Soviet Russia
4. Guarantee of Western European borders
Choose the correct answer from the options

trade among its members.

49. To assess a student's understanding of the evolution of the European Union, which of the following correctly traces its institutional development?
(A) ECSC → EEC → EC → EU
(B) EU → EEC → ECSC → EC
(C) EEC → EU → EC → ECSC
(D) ECSC → EU → EEC → EC

50. The most appropriate description of the European Union's current structural nature is:
(A) A supranational and intergovernmental political and economic union
(B) A loose economic forum with no binding laws
(C) A purely military alliance
(D) A single sovereign state replacing all its member states

51. What term is used to describe the principle that EU law takes precedence over the national laws of its member states?
(A) Subsidiarity
(B) Proportionality
(C) Supremacy
(D) Intergovernmentalism

52. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The Helsinki Accords legally bound the Soviet Union to respect human rights, which eventually empowered Soviet dissidents.
Statement II: The Accords formalized the borders of Europe as they existed post-World War II, which was a major objective of the USSR.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

53. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): After the end of the Cold War, NATO did not dissolve but instead expanded its membership eastward.
Reason (R): Newly independent Eastern European states sought NATO membership to ensure security and consolidate democratic transitions.
In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

54. Which of the following threats is generally classified as a non-traditional/human security threat in contemporary Europe?
(A) Conventional military invasion
(B) Climate change-induced migration
(C) Nuclear proliferation
(D) Naval blockades

55. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Institutions/Agreements)
P. Frontex
Q. Schengen Agreement
R. Dublin Regulation
S. Europol
List II: (Core Focus Areas)
1. Determining which EU member state is responsible for processing an asylum claim
2. Management of external EU borders
3. Law enforcement cooperation and combating organized crime
4. Abolition of internal border checks
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

56. Identify the correct statement regarding migration and the refugee crisis in Europe.
(A) The Syrian Civil War was a major catalyst for the large influx of refugees into Europe in 2015.
(B) The 2015 refugee crisis was primarily driven by migration from North America.
(C) The Dublin Regulation mandates that refugees must be processed in the country

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39. Identify the incorrect statement about the European economy in the 1920s and 1930s.
(A) European nations struggled with debt incurred during WWI.
(B) The Dawes Plan and Young Plan were efforts to resolve the German reparations issue.
(C) Protectionist trade policies, such as tariffs, worsened the economic crisis.
(D) The Great Depression had no significant impact on European industrial output.

40. The most appropriate explanation for the failure of the League of Nations is:
(A) Absence of major powers and enforcement mechanisms.
(B) The overwhelming military power of the League's standing army frightened states away.
(C) Its primary focus was solely on economic development rather than security.
(D) It was officially disbanded immediately after the 1929 stock market crash.

41. Which treaty established the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1949?
(A) The Treaty of Rome
(B) The Paris Agreement
(C) The Washington Treaty
(D) The Treaty of Maastricht

42. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Article 5 of the NATO treaty embodies the principle of collective defense, stating that an attack on one is an attack on all.
Statement II: The Warsaw Pact was formed prior to NATO to counter Western European integration.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

43. Which of the following is an incorrect pair regarding European accords and their years of establishment?
(A) NATO - 1949
(B) Warsaw Pact - 1955
(C) Helsinki Accords - 1975
(D) European Union (Maastricht Treaty) - 1985

44. Based on the concept of collective security, which action represents the first invocation of NATO's Article 5?
(A) The Korean War in 1950
(B) The September 11 terrorist attacks in 2001
(C) The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989
(D) The Russian annexation of Crimea in 2014

45. Which of the following is NOT considered a "basket" (area of agreement) in the 1975 Helsinki Accords?
(A) Regional security and border recognition in Europe
(B) Scientific, environmental, and economic cooperation
(C) Dismantling the Soviet nuclear arsenal
(D) Cooperation in humanitarian and human rights fields

46. The "Brezhnev Doctrine" formulated during the Cold War is defined as:
(A) The Soviet policy of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of its allies.
(B) The policy of providing economic aid to Western Europe.
(C) The doctrine of nuclear first-strike capability against NATO.
(D) The right to intervene militarily in threatened communist states.

47. The signing of the Helsinki Accords in 1975 was a direct effect of which broader Cold War trend?
(A) Détente
(B) Brinkmanship
(C) Containment
(D) Rollback

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48. Identify the correct statement regarding the Warsaw Pact.
(A) It was a military alliance of capitalist states in Western Europe.
(B) It was dissolved in 1991 following Soviet collapse.
(C) It successfully integrated the military command of the United States and the UK.
(D) It was primarily designed to promote free

94. Applying the concept of the "Security Dilemma," how can NATO's eastward expansion be interpreted?
(A) As a move that unconditionally guaranteed Russian security, leading to unilateral Russian disarmament.
(B) As an economic initiative with no military implications whatsoever.
(C) As a joint NATO-Russia strategy to contain Chinese influence.
(D) Defensive moves seen as offensive threats, prompting a response.

95. Which of the following is an exception to the goals of the European Green Deal?
(A) Increasing the EU's reliance on imported fossil fuels
(B) Making Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050
(C) Decoupling economic growth from resource use
(D) Ensuring a just and inclusive transition for regions dependent on carbon-intensive industries

96. "Ostpolitik," a policy initiated by West German Chancellor Willy Brandt, is defined as:
(A) The aggressive military posture of Germany against the Soviet Union.
(B) The normalization of relations between the Federal Republic of Germany (West) and Eastern Europe.
(C) The policy of unifying East and West Germany through immediate military force.
(D) The economic blockade of East Berlin.

97. The dependence of European industrial development on colonial resources highlights which historical cause-effect relationship?
(A) Colonialism hindered the Industrial Revolution by draining capital.
(B) Colonial resources fueled industrialization and economic dominance.
(C) Industrialization caused European powers to immediately grant independence to all colonies.
(D) European industries relied solely on domestic raw materials, making colonies irrelevant.

98. Identify the correct statement regarding the Soviet economic model.
(A) It was characterized by central planning and state ownership of the means of production.
(B) It relied heavily on free-market pricing mechanisms.
(C) It encouraged widespread private enterprise and foreign direct investment.
(D) It successfully outpaced Western technological innovation in consumer goods by the 1980s.

99. Which competency correctly identifies a primary factor in the collapse of the Soviet Union?
(A) Recognizing that rapid military expansion successfully revived the Soviet economy.
(B) Asserting that the complete lack of nationalist sentiments in the republics kept the union stable.
(C) Reforms (Perestroika and Glasnost) unintentionally accelerated collapse.
(D) Arguing that massive financial aid from the US sustained the Soviet government until a natural disaster caused its fall.

100. The most appropriate interpretation of "Soft Power" in the context of the European Union is:
(A) Its ability to deploy rapid reaction military forces globally.
(B) Its monopoly over global nuclear energy production.
(C) Its strategy of using cyber warfare to disrupt adversaries.
(D) Influencing actors through culture, values, and prosperity.

101. The "Common Foreign and Security Policy" (CFSP) of the EU was formally established by which treaty?
(A) Treaty of Paris
(B) Treaty of Amsterdam
(C) Treaty of Maastricht
(D) Treaty of Lisbon

102. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Nationalism in 19th-century Europe was a unifying force in Germany and Italy but a disruptive force in the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires.
Statement II: The Industrial Revolution created new communication technologies, like

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they wish to settle in, regardless of entry point.

(D) EU member states showed complete unanimity in the distribution and quota of refugees.

57. Consider the following statements about ethnic problems in post-Cold War Europe:

1. The breakup of Yugoslavia led to violent ethnic conflicts in the 1990s.
2. The Dayton Agreement was signed to end the Bosnian War.
3. The conflict in Northern Ireland (The Troubles) was strictly an economic dispute with no ethno-nationalist dimensions.
4. Ethnic Russian minorities in the Baltic states have been a point of friction between Russia and NATO.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(A) 1, 3, and 4
(B) 2, 3, and 4
(C) 1, 2, and 4
(D) 1, 2, and 3

58. Which of the following correctly pairs an ethnic conflict with its geographic location in Europe/ Eurasia?

(A) Kosovo - The Balkans
(B) Nagorno-Karabakh - Iberian Peninsula
(C) Chechnya - Scandinavia
(D) Basque separatism - The Caucasus

59. Arrange the following events related to state and human security in Europe in chronological order:

1. Signing of the Dayton Accords
2. The beginning of the Syrian refugee crisis impacting Europe
3. The Good Friday Agreement (Northern Ireland)
4. Russian annexation of Crimea

Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?

(A) 1, 3, 4, 2
(B) 1, 3, 2, 4
(C) 3, 1, 4, 2
(D) 3, 1, 2, 4

60. The massive influx of refugees into European border states has frequently caused which political effect within the EU?

(A) Immediate dissolution of the internal Schengen Area
(B) Rise of right-wing populist and anti-immigration parties
(C) Unanimous agreement to open all EU external borders
(D) Voluntary departure of Italy and Greece from the EU

61. Consider the following statements regarding threats to human security in Europe:

1. Terrorism by radicalized groups poses a significant internal threat.
2. Cyber-attacks on critical infrastructure are considered a major external and internal security challenge.
3. Europe's demographic crisis (aging population) poses long-term economic security threats.
4. Energy dependency on external sources creates geopolitical vulnerabilities.
5. Human trafficking across the Mediterranean is no longer an issue for the EU.

Which of the above statements are correct?

(A) 2, 3, 4, and 5
(B) 1, 3, 4, and 5
(C) 1, 2, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 2, 4, and 5

62. "Human Security," in the context of European policy, is best defined as:

(A) Protecting the state from external military invasion
(B) The buildup of conventional weapon systems for deterrence
(C) The protection of European diplomatic missions abroad
(D) Protecting individuals from a wide range of threats

63. Read the following case and answer the question that follows:

State A, located on the edge of the EU, receives thousands of undocumented migrants by sea daily. Under current EU rules, State A is overwhelmed because it is required to process these individuals' asylum claims, while internal EU states refuse to accept quotas.

This scenario highlights the structural flaws of which European mechanism?

(A) The Dublin System

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given below:
(A) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2

31. Identify the correct statement regarding the Soviet Union during the inter-war period.
(A) It implemented the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact with Nazi Germany in 1939.
(B) It was a founding member of the League of Nations in 1919.
(C) It strongly supported the Spanish Nationalist forces under Franco.
(D) It adopted a purely capitalist economic system under Stalin.

32. Consider the following statements about Europe between the two World Wars:
1. The Weimar Republic struggled with hyperinflation and political extremism.
2. The French sought strict enforcement of the Versailles Treaty to ensure security against Germany.
3. Great Britain adopted a policy of appeasement towards the end of the 1930s.
4. Italy formed a democratic alliance with the Soviet Union to counter German expansion.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4
(B) 1, 2, and 3
(C) 2, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 3, and 4

33. Which of the following is a correct pair of a European leader and their ideology during the inter-war period?
(A) Joseph Stalin - Fascism
(B) Adolf Hitler - National Socialism
(C) Benito Mussolini - Communism
(D) Neville Chamberlain - Marxist-Leninism

34. The policy of "Appeasement" used by Western powers in the 1930s is an example of applying which concept in International Relations?
(A) Diplomatic concession to avoid conflict
(B) Preemptive War
(C) Collective Security
(D) Absolute deterrence

35. The harsh reparations imposed on Germany by the Treaty of Versailles directly contributed to which of the following effects?
(A) A rapid transition of Germany into an agricultural superpower
(B) The strengthening of the Franco-German military alliance
(C) Economic collapse and the rise of Nazism
(D) The voluntary demilitarization of the Soviet Union

36. Consider the following events related to Europe between the two World Wars:
1. The Spanish Civil War
2. The signing of the Treaty of Versailles
3. The Italian invasion of Abyssinia
4. The Nazi invasion of Poland
5. The Wall Street Crash triggering the Great Depression

Which of the above combination of events weakened the League of Nations' credibility?
(A) 1, 2, and 4
(B) 2, 3, and 5
(C) 3, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 3, and 4

37. Fascism in inter-war Europe is best defined as:
(A) A decentralized political system emphasizing local autonomy and free markets
(B) A revolutionary socialist ideology seeking the abolition of private property
(C) Radical authoritarian nationalism with dictatorial power
(D) A liberal democratic movement advocating for universal suffrage and civil liberties

38. Read the following case and answer the question that follows:
In 1938, leaders of Britain, France, Italy, and Germany met to discuss Germany's territorial demands on Czechoslovakia. Hoping to prevent another devastating war, Britain and France agreed to allow Germany to annex the Sudetenland.
This case is a classic illustration of:
(A) The Truman Doctrine
(B) The Policy of Appeasement
(C) Collective Defense
(D) The Brezhnev Doctrine

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deterrence
(D) Shape international relations through values and norms

72. The deep energy interdependence between Russia and the EU prior to 2022 primarily caused which geopolitical effect?
(A) Created vulnerability for EU states, complicating a unified response.
(B) It made the EU entirely immune to Russian political pressure.
(C) It led to the immediate collapse of the Russian energy sector.
(D) It prompted Russia to join NATO.

73. Identify the correct statement regarding the EU's trade policy.
(A) Individual EU member states are free to sign their own bilateral free trade agreements outside the EU framework.
(B) The EU is fundamentally opposed to the World Trade Organization (WTO).
(C) The EU negotiates trade agreements as a single entity on behalf of all its member states.
(D) EU trade policy strictly prohibits imports from developing countries.

74. Which competency correctly analyzes the impact of the US Marshall Plan on post-WWII Europe?
(A) Aimed to rebuild economies to prevent communism and establish markets.
(B) Asserting that it was a military treaty designed to permanently divide Germany.
(C) Identifying that it provided funds exclusively to the Soviet Union and its satellite states.
(D) Stating that it dismantled European industrial capacity to favor US manufacturing.

75. The most appropriate term for the close strategic, political, and economic relationship between the US and Europe is:
(A) The Pacific Pivot
(B) The Eurasian Axis
(C) The Non-Aligned Movement
(D) The Transatlantic Alliance

76. What was the core tenet of the Truman Doctrine announced in 1947?
(A) The immediate withdrawal of all US forces from Europe
(B) Providing aid to nations threatened by authoritarian forces.
(C) The promotion of European colonial expansion in Asia
(D) The establishment of a joint US-Soviet global government

77. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Throughout the Cold War, the US nuclear umbrella provided the ultimate security guarantee for Western Europe.
Statement II: Following the Cold War, the US completely dismantled its military presence in Europe.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

78. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The role of the US in European security has sometimes caused friction among EU member states.
Reason (R): Some EU states prefer building an independent European defense capability, while others, particularly in Eastern Europe, view US involvement as essential for their security against Russia.
In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

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79. Which of the European states did NOT join the US-led coalition during the 2003 invasion of Iraq?
(A) France
(B) United Kingdom

(C) Poland
(D) Spain

80. Match List I with List II:
List I: (US Policies/Doctrines)
P. Marshall Plan
Q. Truman Doctrine
R. Pivot to Asia (Obama Era)
S. America First (Trump Era)
List II: (Impact on Europe)
1. Raised concerns in Europe about US commitment to NATO and European defense
2. Economic reconstruction of Western Europe
3. Shifted primary US strategic focus away from Europe towards the Indo-Pacific
4. Pledged support for Greece and Turkey against communist threats
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(B) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3

81. Identify the correct statement regarding the US role in the Balkans in the 1990s.
(A) The US refused to participate in any peace efforts.
(B) Played a decisive role in the Dayton Accords and NATO bombing.
(C) The US supported the expansion of Greater Serbia.
(D) The US entirely delegated the military response to the United Nations without intervening.

82. Consider the following statements about US-Europe relations:
1. The US and the EU are each other's largest trade and investment partners.
2. The US strongly opposed the creation of the European single market.
3. Debates over burden-sharing (defense spending) have been a recurring issue in NATO.
4. The US supported European integration during the Cold War to strengthen the West against the Soviet bloc.
Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) 1, 3, and 4
(B) 1, 2, and 3
(C) 2, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 2, and 4

83. Which of the following correctly pairs a concept related to Globalization with its impact on Europe?
(A) Financial deregulation - Shielded the Eurozone from the 2008 global financial crisis
(B) Cultural homogenization - Complete eradication of the English language in Europe
(C) Deindustrialization - Job shifts from Western Europe to lower-cost regions
(D) Free movement of labor - Decrease in intra-European migration

84. Arrange the following economic crises impacting Europe in chronological order:
1. The Global Financial Crisis (Subprime Mortgage Crisis)
2. The Eurozone Sovereign Debt Crisis
3. The Oil Shock
4. The Great Depression
Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?
(A) 4, 3, 1, 2
(B) 4, 1, 3, 2
(C) 3, 4, 1, 2
(D) 4, 3, 2, 1

85. The rapid integration of post-Soviet states into the global market economy in the 1990s, often through rapid privatization, is known as:
(A) Import Substitution
(B) Mercantilism
(C) Shock Therapy
(D) Quantitative Easing

86. Consider the following statements regarding the impact of globalization on Russia:
1. It led to Russia's integration into global energy markets as a major supplier.
2. The 1998 Russian financial crisis was entirely disconnected from global market trends.
3. Globalization facilitated the rise of Russian oligarchs who integrated their wealth into Western financial systems.
4. Russia's entry into the WTO in 2012 marked

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a step towards global economic integration.
5. Globalization caused Russia to abandon its nuclear arsenal.

Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) 1, 2, 4, and 5
(B) 1, 3, and 4
(C) 2, 3, and 5
(D) 1, 3, 4, and 5

87. "Euroscepticism," which gained traction due to the perceived negative impacts of globalization, is defined as:
(A) The uncritical acceptance of all EU directives.
(B) The belief that Europe should unify into a single military state.
(C) The promotion of the Euro as the sole global reserve currency.
(D) Opposition to the policies and institutional power of the European Union.

88. Read the following case and answer the question that follows:
Following the 2008 financial crisis, several Southern European countries faced massive sovereign debt issues. The European Central Bank, the EU, and the IMF imposed strict austerity measures in exchange for bailout funds, leading to high unemployment and political unrest.
This scenario best illustrates:
(A) Vulnerabilities from shared currency without unified fiscal policy.
(B) The seamless success of globalization in lifting all economies equally.
(C) The complete economic independence of Eurozone states.
(D) The irrelevance of global financial institutions in European affairs.

89. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the impact of globalization on European identity.
(A) It has sparked debates over multiculturalism and national identity.
(B) It has facilitated cosmopolitan identities among younger, urban populations.
(C) It has resulted in a uniform, homogenous European culture with no regional variations.
(D) It has triggered nationalist backlashes in several member states.

90. The most appropriate explanation for the Brexit vote in 2016, in the context of globalization, is:
(A) Concerns over sovereignty, immigration, and economic marginalization.
(B) A desire by the UK to adopt the Euro currency immediately.
(C) The UK's intention to join the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union.
(D) A uniform desire across all demographics to increase EU regulations.

91. The "Schengen Area" primarily facilitates which aspect of globalization within Europe?
(A) Free movement of capital
(B) Free movement of digital data
(C) Standardization of agricultural products
(D) Free movement of people

92. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Globalization has increased Europe's reliance on global supply chains, as highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
Statement II: In response to supply chain vulnerabilities, European leaders have promoted policies aimed at re-shoring critical industries.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

93. Which of the following is an incorrect pair regarding Russian foreign policy concepts?
(A) Near Abroad - Post-Soviet republics where Russia claims special interests
(B) Eurasianism - Ideology emphasizing Russia's unique geopolitical position between Europe and Asia
(C) Primakov Doctrine - Striving for a unipolar world dominated by Russia
(D) Sovereign Democracy - Putin's concept of a democratic state free from foreign interference

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(B) The Maastricht Treaty
(C) The Common Agricultural Policy
(D) The European Central Bank

64. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the internal threats to state security in the erstwhile Soviet Union prior to its collapse.
(A) Severe economic stagnation weakened central state capacity.
(B) Nationalist movements in the Baltic republics challenged authority.
(C) Glasnost allowed inadvertent open criticism of the regime.
(D) The economy was diversified and immune to oil fluctuations.

65. What is the most appropriate description of "Hybrid Warfare," a contemporary threat faced by European states?
(A) Warfare conducted strictly using naval and air forces without ground troops.
(B) Blending conventional force with cyber-attacks and disinformation.
(C) Warfare that relies exclusively on nuclear deterrence.
(D) Conflicts fought solely through economic sanctions.

66. The concept of "Strategic Autonomy" in recent European Union discourse refers to:
(A) EU goal to act independently in security and defense.
(B) The total privatization of all European military forces.
(C) The complete withdrawal of the EU from global trade.
(D) The mandatory expulsion of all non-European armed forces from the continent.

67. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The EU is the largest trading bloc in the world and a major driver of global development cooperation.
Statement II: The EU uses trade agreements to promote human rights and environmental standards globally.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

68. Which of the following is an incorrect pair regarding EU strategic partnerships and policies?
(A) Eastern Partnership - Enhancing relations with post-Soviet states
(B) Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) - EU's joint diplomatic approach
(C) European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) - Fostering stability with neighbors to the East and South
(D) Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) - Regulating the EU's space exploration

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69. Applying the concept of economic interdependence, how does the EU attempt to ensure peace and stability in its immediate neighborhood?
(A) By launching preemptive military strikes against potential rivals
(B) By isolating neighboring countries through total trade embargoes
(C) Offering trade integration, finance, and association agreements
(D) By strictly limiting all forms of cultural and educational exchange

70. Which of the following is an exception to the EU's general approach to Development Cooperation?
(A) Conditional financial aid based on democratic reforms
(B) The imposition of direct colonial rule over recipient nations
(C) Providing humanitarian assistance during crises
(D) Promoting sustainable development goals (SDGs)

71. "Normative Power Europe" is a concept that defines the EU's ability to:
(A) Dominate global politics through overwhelming military force
(B) Manipulate global currency markets exclusively for domestic gain
(C) Coerce other states solely through nuclear

the telegraph, which facilitated the spread of nationalist ideas.

In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

103. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).

Assertion (A): The end of the Cold War led to a period of unipolarity with the United States as the sole superpower, deeply influencing European geopolitics.

Reason (R): European states immediately formed a united military front to balance against US unipolarity.

In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

104. Which of the following is a negative consequence associated with globalization in Eastern Europe?

(A) "Brain drain" as skilled workers migrate to Western Europe
(B) Increased access to global consumer goods
(C) Integration into international security frameworks
(D) Enhanced digital connectivity

105. Match List I with List II:

List I: (Post-Cold War Conflicts)

P. First Chechen War
Q. Kosovo War
R. Russo-Georgian War (2008)
S. Annexation of Crimea (2014)

List II: (Key Features)

1. NATO bombing campaign without UN Security Council authorization
2. Hybrid warfare tactics leading to a bloodless takeover by "little green men"
3. Russian intervention to support separatist regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia
4. Brutal urban combat in Grozny to suppress regional separatism

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

106. Identify the correct statement regarding the "Euro" currency.

(A) It was launched to physically replace national currencies in 2002.
(B) All member states of the European Union are legally required to use the Euro immediately upon joining.
(C) The United Kingdom was the first country to adopt the Euro.
(D) The Euro's monetary policy is controlled independently by each member state's national bank.

107. Consider the following statements about European institutions:

1. The Council of Europe is completely separate from the European Union.
2. The European Court of Human Rights is an institution of the European Union.
3. The European Parliament is the only directly elected EU body.
4. The European Commission serves as the executive branch of the EU.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(A) 1, 2, and 3
(B) 2, 3, and 4
(C) 1, 2, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 3, and 4

108. Which of the following is an incorrect pair regarding European regional groupings?

(A) Visegrad Group - Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia
(B) Benelux - Belgium, Netherlands, Switzerland
(C) Nordic Council - Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden
(D) Baltic States - Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania

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agrarian serfdom.

157. Consider the following statements about the dissolution of the Soviet Union:
1. The August 1991 coup attempt accelerated the collapse.
2. The Belovezha Accords declared that the USSR ceased to exist.
3. The transition to capitalism was smooth and without economic hardship.
4. It led to the creation of 15 independent republics.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3
(B) 2, 3, and 4
(C) 1, 2, and 4
(D) 1, 3, and 4

158. Which of the following correctly pairs a Cold War crisis with its location?
(A) The Prague Spring (1968) - Poland
(B) Solidarity Movement - Czechoslovakia
(C) Construction of the Berlin Wall (1961) - West Germany
(D) The 1956 Uprising - Hungary

159. Arrange the following events of the Cold War in Europe in chronological order:
1. The Berlin Airlift
2. The fall of the Berlin Wall
3. The Cuban Missile Crisis (Impacting European security dynamics)
4. The signing of the Helsinki Accords

Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?
(A) 1, 3, 4, 2
(B) 1, 4, 3, 2
(C) 3, 1, 4, 2
(D) 1, 3, 2, 4

160. The massive displacement of people during and immediately after World War II in Europe was primarily caused by:
(A) Purely economic incentives for higher wages
(B) Border redrawings, ethnic cleansing, and advancing armies.
(C) The discovery of new continents
(D) A sudden global cooling event

161. Consider the following statements regarding Europe's strategic partnerships:
1. The EU has a strategic partnership with China focusing heavily on trade, despite branding China a "systemic rival."
2. The EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement is one of the largest free trade zones in the world.
3. The EU has completely severed all diplomatic ties with the African Union.
4. The EU relies on a network of Association Agreements to stabilize its neighborhood.
5. The EU prohibits foreign direct investment from non-European countries.

Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) 2, 3, and 5
(B) 1, 2, and 4
(C) 1, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 4, and 5

162. "Détente" in the context of the Cold War in Europe is defined as:
(A) The period of easing geopolitical tensions between the Soviet Union and the West in the 1970s.
(B) The aggressive escalation of nuclear arms races.
(C) The total economic blockade of Eastern Europe.
(D) The rapid deployment of space-based weapons.

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163. Read the following case and answer the question that follows:
A European nation experiences rapid industrialization in the late 19th century. To protect its newly formed domestic industries from British competition, it implements high tariffs, while simultaneously using state funds to build railways and strong military capabilities.
This economic policy approach is best described as:
(A) Laissez-faire capitalism
(B) Utopian socialism in practice
(C) Economic Nationalism / Neo-Mercantilism
(D) Anarcho-syndicalism

164. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the Treaty of Versailles.
(A) It established the League of Nations.
(B) It forced Germany to accept the "War Guilt"

(C) Mercantilism
(D) Isolationism

117. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The European Union's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) was originally designed to ensure food security in post-war Europe.
Statement II: Today, CAP represents a tiny, insignificant fraction of the overall EU budget.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

118. Which of the following is an incorrect pair of a European leader and their associated state-building/policy concept?
(A) Otto von Bismarck - Realpolitik
(B) Charles de Gaulle - Atlanticism
(C) Mikhail Gorbachev - Glasnost
(D) Vladimir Putin - Sovereign Democracy

119. Applying the concept of "Soft Balancing," which action represents how European states might counter US hegemony without direct military confrontation?
(A) Declaring war on the United States
(B) Dismantling their own militaries entirely
(C) Withdrawing from the United Nations
(D) Using exclusive economic zones and digital taxation policies.

120. Which of the following is an exception to the key principles of the European Single Market?
(A) Free movement of defense technologies without export controls
(B) Free movement of goods
(C) Free movement of services
(D) Free movement of capital

121. "Perestroika," introduced in the USSR in the 1980s, is defined as:
(A) The policy of total military mobilization against the West
(B) The forceful suppression of dissident voices in the media
(C) Political and economic restructuring with limited market mechanisms.
(D) The Soviet space program's goal to reach Mars

122. The 1929 stock market crash directly caused which of the following geopolitical effects in 1930s Europe?
(A) Unemployment, hyperinflation, and the rise of right-wing extremists.
(B) Widespread economic prosperity and democratic consolidation
(C) The peaceful dismantling of the British Empire
(D) A massive increase in European colonial acquisitions

123. Identify the correct statement regarding the impact of the Industrial Revolution on European warfare.
(A) It led to a decrease in the size of standing armies due to mechanization.
(B) It rendered navies obsolete as land warfare dominated.
(C) It caused European states to abandon conscription.
(D) It enabled mass production and total war capabilities.

124. Which competency correctly evaluates the role of the Helsinki Accords in the Cold War?
(A) Concluding that they triggered immediate armed conflict between NATO and the Warsaw Pact.
(B) They legitimized borders while empowering regional human rights groups.
(C) Demonstrating that they focused exclusively on eradicating nuclear weapons from Europe.
(D) Proving that they established the European Economic Community.

125. The most appropriate term for the ideological and political division of Europe during the Cold War is:
(A) The Multipolar system
(B) The Concert of Europe
(C) The Bipolar system
(D) The Unipolar moment

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weapons in any European NATO state.
(C) The Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) is traditionally a US military officer.
(D) The US left NATO temporarily during the 1990s.

174. Which competency accurately assesses the impact of globalization on European social democracies?
(A) Recognizing that globalization forced states to increase taxes on capital to unprecedented levels.
(B) Asserting that globalization led to the complete abandonment of all social welfare programs in Europe.
(C) Arguing that globalization allowed European states to entirely isolate their economies.
(D) Capital mobility and competition pressured welfare states to reform.

175. The most appropriate term for the resurgence of intense, aggressive nationalism and expansionism in Italy and Germany during the inter-war period is:
(A) Fascism
(B) Liberal Institutionalism
(C) Social Democracy
(D) Cosmopolitanism

176. Which treaty marked the formal conclusion of World War I?
(A) Treaty of Westphalia
(B) Treaty of Versailles
(C) Treaty of Vienna
(D) Treaty of Utrecht

177. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Following the end of the Cold War, the European Union expanded to include many former Warsaw Pact members.
Statement II: Russian foreign policy under Vladimir Putin has largely welcomed this EU and NATO expansion as a stabilizing factor.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

178. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The issue of migration has become highly securitized in European politics.
Reason (R): Right-wing political parties often frame large-scale immigration as an existential threat to national identity and public safety.
In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

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179. Which of the following is NOT an institution of the European Union?
(A) The European Central Bank
(B) The European Court of Justice
(C) The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)
(D) The European Council

180. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Post-Soviet States)
P. Estonia
Q. Belarus
R. Ukraine
S. Kazakhstan
List II: (Geopolitical Orientation/Feature)
1. Deeply integrated militarily and economically with Russia (Union State)
2. Member of both the EU and NATO
3. Major Central Asian power balancing Russia, China, and the West
4. Scene of major geopolitical conflict over its Western vs. Russian orientation
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4
(B) 1, 3, and 4
(C) 2, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 2, and 3

133. Which of the following is an incorrect pair regarding historical European alliances?
(A) Triple Entente - UK, France, Russia
(B) Triple Alliance - Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy
(C) Axis Powers - Germany, Italy, Soviet Union
(D) Holy Alliance - Russia, Austria, Prussia

134. Applying the concept of "Complex Interdependence," how does globalization affect the likelihood of armed conflict between EU member states?
(A) It significantly increases the likelihood due to resource competition.
(B) It decreases the likelihood because the costs of disrupting deep economic and institutional ties are too high.
(C) It has no effect whatsoever on military conflict.
(D) It guarantees conflict over digital infrastructure.

135. The term "Balkanization" most accurately describes a cause-effect relationship where:
(A) Economic integration causes cultural homogenization.
(B) Industrialization causes rural-to-urban migration.
(C) Globalization causes an increase in local languages.
(D) Diversity and weak authority cause regions to fracture into smaller, hostile states.

136. Consider the following statements regarding the role of the US in Europe after the Cold War:
1. The US supported the expansion of NATO into former Warsaw Pact countries.
2. The US actively opposed the reunification of Germany.
3. The US established missile defense systems in Eastern Europe, causing friction with Russia.
4. The US reduced its overall troop levels in Europe compared to the Cold War peak.
5. The US completely withdrew from NATO in 2018.

Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) 1, 3, and 4
(B) 1, 2, 4, and 5
(C) 2, 3, and 5
(D) 1, 3, and 4

137. "Glasnost" is best defined as:
(A) The Soviet economic policy of rapid industrialization.
(B) The deployment of nuclear missiles in Cuba.
(C) Policy of maximal openness in all Soviet government activities.
(D) The forced collectivization of Soviet agriculture.

138. Read the following case and answer the question that follows:
Following a controversial presidential election in a post-Soviet state, massive pro-democracy protests erupt. The regime, backed by Russia, uses force to suppress the protests, leading to Western sanctions. Migration of dissidents to neighboring EU countries surges.
This case best reflects the recent political dynamics in:
(A) Belarus
(B) Latvia
(C) Kazakhstan
(D) Estonia

139. Identify the incorrect statement regarding European state building.
(A) The Peace of Westphalia (1648) laid the foundation for the concept of state sovereignty.
(B) State building often involved the centralization of taxation and military power.
(C) Educational systems were standardized to promote national languages and identity.
(D) Universal suffrage was fully implemented in all European states immediately upon their formation in the 19th century.

140. The most appropriate factor explaining the initial creation of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) was:
(A) The desire to establish a unified European space program.

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(B) Pooling resources to make war between France and Germany impossible.
(C) The need to defend against a potential British invasion.
(D) The goal of creating a single European language.

141. The geopolitical concept of the "Buffer Zone" was predominantly utilized by the Soviet Union post-WWII in which region?
(A) Western Europe
(B) Scandinavia
(C) Eastern Europe
(D) North Africa

142. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The Treaty of Rome (1957) established the European Economic Community (EEC).
Statement II: The Treaty of Rome immediately established a single European currency.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

143. Which of the following is an incorrect pair regarding an international agreement and its primary domain?
(A) Schengen Agreement - Trade Tariffs
(B) Kyoto Protocol - Climate Change
(C) Maastricht Treaty - European Union creation
(D) Dublin Regulation - Asylum seekers

144. Applying the theory of Neorealism, how would one explain the survival of NATO after the collapse of its primary threat, the Soviet Union?
(A) NATO survived purely out of bureaucratic inertia without any strategic purpose.
(B) It expanded and adapted to address new threats and maintain US hegemony.
(C) NATO survived because the UN mandated its continuation.
(D) NATO survived to transition into a global environmental agency.

145. Which of the following is an exception to the structural features of the post-WWII international system in Europe?
(A) The division of Germany into East and West
(B) The immediate decolonization of all European overseas territories in 1945
(C) The establishment of spheres of influence
(D) Heavy reliance on nuclear deterrence

146. "Asymmetrical warfare" in the context of European security threats is defined as:
(A) Armed conflict between actors with highly unequal military capabilities.
(B) Conflict between two superpowers with equal nuclear arsenals.
(C) Naval battles involving disproportionate ship sizes.
(D) Economic competition through uneven tariff barriers.

147. The 2014 annexation of Crimea by Russia directly caused which major geopolitical shift in Europe?
(A) The immediate dissolution of NATO.
(B) The expulsion of Russia from the United Nations.
(C) Resurgent focus on NATO's territorial defense and deterrence.
(D) A complete halt of all European trade with Asia.

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148. Identify the correct statement regarding European nationalism prior to World War I.
(A) Nationalism was entirely suppressed and played no role in the outbreak of the war.
(B) French nationalism was focused solely on colonial expansion rather than continental borders.
(C) British nationalism advocated for submission to German naval supremacy.
(D) Russian-backed Pan-Slavism challenged Austro-Hungarian integrity.

149. Which competency demonstrates a solid grasp of Europe's demographic challenges?
(A) Asserting that Europe is experiencing a massive youth demographic.
(B) Arguing that Europe's population dynamics have no impact on its economic growth.

(C) Aging populations strain pension systems and necessitate labor migration discussions.
(D) Stating that European countries have successfully reversed population aging through domestic policy alone.

150. The most appropriate interpretation of the "Pivot to Asia" regarding its impact on Europe is:
(A) Europe enthusiastically joined the US in entirely abandoning the Atlantic theater.
(B) Prompted anxieties about US commitments and debates on autonomy.
(C) It resulted in Europe formally aligning with China against the US.
(D) It caused the immediate collapse of the Euro.

151. Which post-Soviet state is historically characterized by a "frozen conflict" in the region of Transnistria?
(A) Georgia
(B) Ukraine
(C) Azerbaijan
(D) Moldova

152. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The "Color Revolutions" in the post-Soviet space were largely pro-democracy, anti-corruption movements.
Statement II: Russia viewed the Color Revolutions as Western-orchestrated plots to encircle and weaken the Russian Federation.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

153. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The European Union has struggled to formulate a completely unified foreign policy.
Reason (R): Foreign policy remains largely a sovereign prerogative of member states, leading to divergent national interests.
In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

154. Which of the following is a negative impact (drawback) of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) often cited by critics?
(A) Subsidized food dumping on global markets, harming developing nations.
(B) It ensures a stable food supply in Europe.
(C) It promotes rural development.
(D) It completely eradicates all agricultural technology.

155. Match List I with List II:
List I: (International Relations Theories)
P. Neofunctionalism
Q. Intergovernmentalism
R. Constructivism
S. Realism
List II: (Application to European Integration)
1. Emphasizes the role of shared European identity and norms
2. Views the EU as a tool for states to maximize their own relative power
3. Focuses on 'spillover' effects driving integration forward
4. Argues that sovereign states are the ultimate decision-makers in the EU
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

156. Identify the correct statement regarding the impact of the Industrial Revolution on class structures in Europe.
(A) It reinforced the absolute power of the landed aristocracy.
(B) It led to the rise of the industrial bourgeoisie and an urban working class (proletariat).
(C) It created an entirely classless society.
(D) It forced urban populations back into

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126. What was the primary geopolitical goal of the Congress of Vienna (1814-1815)?
(A) To formally establish the European Union
(B) To divide Africa among European powers
(C) To promote republican revolutions across the continent
(D) Restoring the balance of power after the Napoleonic Wars.

127. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The concept of "Lebensraum" was a geopolitical justification used by Nazi Germany for territorial expansion into Eastern Europe.
Statement II: The League of Nations successfully prevented the militarization of the Rhineland.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

128. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The United Kingdom historically preferred an offshore balancing strategy toward continental Europe.
Reason (R): As an island nation, the UK sought to prevent any single power from dominating the European continent, which could threaten British maritime supremacy.
In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

129. Which of the following states is a negative example (exception) of NATO membership in Western Europe during the Cold War?
(A) France
(B) Switzerland
(C) Italy
(D) West Germany

130. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Concepts of EU integration)
P. Spillover
Q. Subsidiarity
R. Acquis Communautaire
S. Opt-out
List II: (Definitions)
1. Integration in one economic sector creates pressures for integration in further sectors
2. Decisions should be taken at the lowest possible political level
3. The accumulated body of EU law and obligations
4. An agreement allowing a member state to not participate in certain EU policies
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

131. Identify the correct statement regarding the impact of the Industrial Revolution on European imperialism.
(A) It made colonies economically irrelevant to European powers.
(B) It promoted indigenous industrialization in European colonies.
(C) It created a demand for raw materials and captive markets, accelerating imperial expansion.
(D) It led to the immediate end of the transatlantic slave trade without creating new forms of exploitation.

132. Consider the following statements about the geopolitical dynamics of the Arctic region involving Europe and Russia:
1. Melting sea ice is opening new maritime trade routes, such as the Northern Sea Route.
2. The region holds significant untapped oil and gas reserves.
3. Russia is heavily militarizing its Arctic coastline.
4. The European Union has no geopolitical interest in the Arctic.

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clause.
(C) It mandated significant territorial losses for Germany.
(D) It allowed Germany to maintain an unlimited standing army to ensure continental balance.

165. The most appropriate reason for the European Union's implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is:
(A) To censor political opposition online.
(B) To shut down all American tech companies in Europe.
(C) Protecting data privacy and regulating digital globalization.
(D) To create a single European social media network.

166. What term describes the policy shift under Gorbachev aimed at economic restructuring?
(A) Glasnost
(B) Perestroika
(C) Nomenklatura
(D) Komsomol

167. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The Marshall Plan was offered to Eastern European states, but the Soviet Union pressured them to reject it.
Statement II: COMECON was established by the Soviet Union to coordinate the economic development of the Eastern Bloc.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

168. Which of the following is an incorrect pair regarding European energy geopolitics?
(A) Nabucco Pipeline - Terminated project that failed to end gas dependency.
(B) Nord Stream - Pipeline bypassing transit countries to deliver gas from Russia to Germany
(C) TurkStream - Pipeline connecting Russian gas to Southern Europe via Turkey
(D) Southern Gas Corridor - EU initiative to diversify gas supply from the Caspian region

169. Applying the concept of "Democratic Peace Theory," which outcome of European integration is best explained?
(A) The increase in colonial wars fought by EU members
(B) The collapse of the Soviet Union
(C) The absence of war between EU member states since the end of WWII
(D) The rise of terrorism in major European cities

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170. Which of the following is an exception to the traditional characteristics of a "Nation-State" as developed in 19th-century Europe?
(A) A completely nomadic population with no fixed settlements
(B) Defined territorial borders
(C) A centralized government apparatus
(D) A shared national identity or culture

171. "Concert of Europe" established after the Congress of Vienna is defined as:
(A) A musical festival celebrating European unity.
(B) A military alliance exclusively dedicated to conquering Asia.
(C) A trade union for European industrial workers.
(D) Power balance system adopted to resolve disputes.

172. The failure of the Weimar Republic to manage the economic crisis of the 1920s and 30s directly caused:
(A) The strengthening of democratic institutions in Germany.
(B) A surge in popular support for radical anti-democratic parties like the NSDAP (Nazis).
(C) The immediate reunification of Germany and Austria under a monarch.
(D) A permanent alliance with the Soviet Union.

173. Identify the correct statement regarding the role of the United States in NATO.
(A) The US contributes the smallest financial share to NATO's budget.
(B) The US is barred from deploying nuclear

109. Arrange the following stages of European economic integration in chronological order based on the Balassa model:
1. Free Trade Area
2. Customs Union
3. Common Market
4. Economic Union

Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?
(A) 1, 2, 3, 4
(B) 2, 1, 3, 4
(C) 1, 3, 2, 4
(D) 2, 3, 1, 4

110. The dependency on Russian natural gas significantly influenced Germany's foreign policy approach, known as:
(A) Containment
(B) Rollback
(C) Isolationism
(D) Wandel durch Handel (Change through Trade)

111. Consider the following statements regarding the Warsaw Pact:
1. It was signed in response to West Germany joining NATO.
2. It included Yugoslavia and Albania as its founding and permanent core members until 1991.
3. It formally established a unified military command under a Soviet supreme commander.
4. It was used as a mechanism to justify military intervention in Czechoslovakia in 1968.
5. It focused heavily on standardizing military equipment across member states.

Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) 1, 3, 4, and 5
(B) 1, 2, 3, and 4
(C) 2, 3, 4, and 5
(D) 1, 2, 4, and 5

112. "Iron Curtain," a term coined by Winston Churchill, is defined as:
(A) The physical steel wall built between East and West Berlin.
(B) Post-WWII political and military barriers erected by the USSR.
(C) A major Soviet industrial policy focusing on heavy metal production.
(D) The naval blockade of the United Kingdom by Soviet submarines.

113. Read the following case and answer the question that follows:
Country Y, a non-EU member in Eastern Europe, signs an Association Agreement with the EU to enhance political and economic ties. Shortly after, a neighboring major power, fearing loss of influence, heavily subsidizes opposition groups within Country Y, sparking a severe internal crisis and eventual territorial annexation.
This case closely mirrors the events leading to the crisis in:
(A) Belarus
(B) Ukraine
(C) Romania
(D) Finland

114. Identify the incorrect statement regarding migration in contemporary Europe.
(A) The EU has completely eliminated human smuggling across the Mediterranean Sea.
(B) The Schengen Agreement has made internal movement easier but complicated external border management.
(C) "Fortress Europe" is a term used by critics to describe the EU's strict external immigration policies.
(D) Aging demographics in many European countries create a structural economic need for migrant labor.

115. The most appropriate explanation for the rise of ethno-nationalism in post-communist Europe is:
(A) Sudden influx of wealth completely equalized all social classes.
(B) Western European powers actively forced Eastern European states to fragment.
(C) The ideological vacuum left by communism was filled by ethnic identities.
(D) Climate change drastically altered ethnic boundaries.

116. The "Truman Doctrine" fundamentally shifted US foreign policy away from its traditional stance of:
(A) Imperialism
(B) Multilateralism

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181. Identify the correct statement regarding the ethnic conflicts in the Balkans in the 1990s.
(A) The conflicts were peacefully resolved entirely through local referendums.
(B) The United Nations successfully prevented any civilian casualties in Srebrenica.
(C) International intervention, including NATO strikes, was used to stop cleansing.
(D) The Soviet Union deployed troops to stabilize the region.

182. Consider the following statements about US strategic interests in Europe:
1. Preventing a hostile power from dominating the European landmass.
2. Maintaining a strong transatlantic economic partnership.
3. Securing European cooperation for global counter-terrorism efforts.
4. Encouraging the complete dissolution of the European Union.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) 1, 3, and 4
(B) 1, 2, and 3
(C) 1, 2, and 4
(D) 2, 3, and 4

183. Which of the following correctly pairs a concept of globalization with its manifestation in Europe?
(A) "Race to the bottom" - Harmonization of high environmental standards across the EU
(B) "Protectionism" - The complete removal of agricultural subsidies in France
(C) "Autarky" - Germany's deep integration into global export markets
(D) "Glocalization" - McDonald's adapting its menu to fit local European tastes

184. Arrange the following events related to Russian geopolitical actions in chronological order:
1. The annexation of Crimea
2. The Russo-Georgian War
3. The launch of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine
4. The Russian intervention in the Syrian Civil War

Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?
(A) 2, 1, 4, 3
(B) 1, 2, 3, 4
(C) 2, 4, 1, 3
(D) 4, 2, 1, 3

185. The dependency theory perspective on globalization would most likely argue that Eastern Europe's integration into the global economy:
(A) Led to immediate parity with Western European wealth.
(B) Caused Eastern Europe to become the dominant core of the global economy.
(C) Relegated Eastern Europe to a peripheral status supplying resources.
(D) Had absolutely no economic impact on the region.

186. Consider the following statements regarding the European Union's response to the impact of globalization:
1. It aims to act as a regulatory superpower, setting global standards.
2. It has created a digital single market to compete with US and Chinese tech giants.
3. It completely ignores environmental regulations to maximize industrial output.
4. It uses its large market size to leverage favorable trade deals globally.
5. It advocates for the abolition of the World Trade Organization.

Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4
(B) 2, 3, and 5
(C) 1, 3, and 5
(D) 1, 4, and 5

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187. "Geoeconomics" in the context of Europe-Russia relations is defined as:
(A) The study of soil types for agricultural maximization.
(B) The military defense of physical gold reserves.
(C) The promotion of universal basic income.
(D) The use of economic instruments, such as energy supply and sanctions, to achieve geopolitical objectives.

188. Read the following case and answer the question that follows:
Following a severe economic downturn, a European state sees a surge in nationalist rhetoric

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3

206. Identify the correct statement regarding the concept of "Human Security" as applied by the EU.
(A) It relies entirely on the use of nuclear weapons.
(B) It is designed to protect authoritarian regimes from democratic protests.
(C) It strictly prohibits the delivery of humanitarian aid.
(D) It integrates human rights, development, and conflict prevention.

207. Consider the following statements about European alliances:
1. The EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) allows the EU to undertake peacekeeping and crisis management missions.
2. NATO is fundamentally an economic union with no military component.
3. The Helsinki Final Act recognized the inviolability of post-WWII European borders.
4. The Warsaw Pact was led by the United States.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) 1 and 3
(B) 1, 2, and 3
(C) 1, 3, and 4
(D) 2 and 4

208. Which of the following correctly pairs an ethnic minority with a region of contemporary tension?
(A) Scots - Italy
(B) Catalans - Spain
(C) Bavarians - France
(D) Bretons - Germany

209. Arrange the following events related to the end of the Cold War in chronological order:
1. The election of Mikhail Gorbachev as General Secretary
2. The dissolution of the Warsaw Pact
3. The reunification of Germany
4. The fall of the Berlin Wall

Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?
(A) 1, 4, 3, 2
(B) 1, 3, 4, 2
(C) 4, 1, 3, 2
(D) 1, 4, 2, 3

210. High structural unemployment in some European states is primarily a cause of:
(A) Widespread support for populist, anti-establishment political movements.
(B) An increase in overall birth rates.
(C) Immediate economic convergence with the US.
(D) The voluntary disbandment of labor unions.

211. Consider the following statements regarding the geopolitical impact of the Nord Stream pipelines:
1. They increased European reliance on Russian natural gas.
2. They bypassed traditional transit countries like Ukraine and Poland.
3. They were strongly supported by the United States as a means to weaken Russia.
4. Their destruction in 2022 drastically altered European energy geopolitics.
5. They were designed to export European oil to Russia.

Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) 2, 3, and 5
(B) 1, 3, and 4
(C) 1, 2, and 4
(D) 1, 4, and 5

212. "Soft Balancing" in international relations is best defined as:
(A) Using massive military buildup to counter a hegemon.
(B) The outright surrender of smaller states to a superpower.
(C) Balancing budgets to achieve a surplus.
(D) Using non-military tools to frustrate actions of a dominant power.

213. Read the following case and answer the question that follows:
A massive cyber-attack paralyzes the banking sector and government websites of a small Baltic state. The attack is traced back to servers in a

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(D) European military dominance caused the US to completely withdraw its forces.

198. Identify the correct statement regarding trade relations between the EU and the US.
(A) They have no significant trade relationship.
(B) They engage in the largest bilateral trade and investment relationship in the world.
(C) The EU exports exclusively raw materials to the US.
(D) The US completely boycotted European goods following the creation of the Euro.

199. Which competency correctly identifies the strategic importance of the "Suwałki Gap" to European security?
(A) Recognizing it as the only maritime chokepoint into the Mediterranean Sea.
(B) Asserting that it is the primary natural gas pipeline connecting the UK to Norway.
(C) Arguing that it is the mountainous border protecting Italy from France.
(D) It is a land corridor between Kaliningrad and Belarus, near Poland.

200. The most appropriate characterization of Russian nationalism in the post-Soviet era under Vladimir Putin is:
(A) Blend of statism, conservatism, and protection of regional ethnic Russians.
(B) Purely civic nationalism focused on democratic integration.
(C) The total rejection of orthodox Christian values.
(D) The desire to completely dissolve the Russian state into smaller republics.

201. Which treaty officially transformed the European Community into the European Union?
(A) Treaty of Nice
(B) Treaty of Amsterdam
(C) Treaty of Maastricht
(D) Single European Act

202. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The "Third Way" politics in 1990s Europe sought to reconcile center-right economic policies with center-left social policies.
Statement II: The Industrial Revolution had no impact on the development of socialist political movements in Europe.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

203. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Globalization has contributed to the erosion of traditional state sovereignty in Europe.
Reason (R): International organizations, multinational corporations, and global financial markets exert significant influence over domestic economic and regulatory policies.
In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

204. Which of the following is NOT a consequence of the Great Depression on Europe?
(A) Massive unemployment across the continent
(B) The strengthening of the League of Nations
(C) The collapse of the Weimar Republic's economy
(D) A rise in economic protectionism

205. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Post-WWII European Leaders)
P. Jean Monnet
Q. Winston Churchill
R. Konrad Adenauer
S. Charles de Gaulle
List II: (Key Contributions)
1. Advocated for an independent French nuclear deterrent (Force de Frappe)
2. A founding father of the European Coal and Steel Community
3. First Chancellor of West Germany, integrated Germany into the West
4. Coined the term "Iron Curtain"

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blaming international institutions and foreign workers for local job losses. The government decides to hold a referendum to withdraw from a major continental economic union.
This scenario is a classic example of:
(A) Globalist convergence
(B) A populist backlash against globalization
(C) Utopian socialism in practice
(D) Aggressive imperial expansion

189. Identify the incorrect statement regarding human security in the European context.
(A) Human security emphasizes individual protection over state border protection.
(B) Climate change is recognized by the EU as a major human security threat.
(C) The EU's security strategy solely focuses on traditional military buildup.
(D) Pandemic diseases represent a non-traditional threat to human security.

190. The most appropriate reason for the creation of the Warsaw Pact was:
(A) To foster free trade with the United States.
(B) To promote democratic elections in the Eastern bloc.
(C) To coordinate the peaceful exploration of outer space.
(D) Countering West German NATO entry and securing Soviet regional control.

191. Who was the principal author of the "Long Telegram" which laid the intellectual foundation for the US policy of containment in Europe?
(A) George F. Kennan
(B) Henry Kissinger
(C) Dean Acheson
(D) John Foster Dulles

192. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) offers neighboring countries a pathway to full EU membership.
Statement II: The ENP seeks to establish a "ring of friends" around the EU to ensure stability and security on its borders.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

193. Which of the following is an incorrect pair regarding historical state-building processes?
(A) Enclosure Movement - Great Britain
(B) Magna Carta - Russia
(C) Risorgimento - Italy
(D) Zollverein - Germany

194. Applying the concept of "Supranationalism," how does the European Parliament differ from traditional international organizations like the UN General Assembly?
(A) Its members are directly elected by citizens rather than governments.
(B) It possesses an independent standing army.
(C) It only meets once every ten years.
(D) It strictly prohibits the formation of transnational political groups.

195. Which of the following is an exception to the common drivers of migration to Europe?
(A) Fleeing armed conflict and persecution
(B) Seeking better economic opportunities
(C) The desire to escape the high living standards of the destination countries
(D) Family reunification

196. "Collective Defense" is best defined as:
(A) The pooling of financial resources to combat climate change.
(B) The strategy of remaining strictly neutral during an armed conflict.
(C) An alliance dedicated solely to agricultural cooperation.
(D) An alliance commitment where an attack on one is an attack on all.

197. The US involvement in the Yugoslav Wars in the 1990s demonstrated which cause-effect relationship?
(A) US isolationism caused the immediate end of the conflict.
(B) US intervention caused the Soviet Union to re-enter the region.
(C) Local crisis resolution failures caused US-led NATO intervention.

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neighboring major power, though the government of that power denies involvement. The attacked state appeals to its defense alliance for support.
This incident is a prime example of:
(A) Traditional conventional warfare
(B) Economic sanctions
(C) Hybrid threat to state security
(D) Cooperative development

214. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the industrial revolution's impact on European geopolitics.
(A) It gave European powers the technological edge to colonize large parts of Asia and Africa.
(B) It shifted global power away from Europe to South America.
(C) It necessitated the securing of global maritime trade routes.
(D) It fueled an arms race prior to World War I.

215. The most appropriate interpretation of "Strategic Depth" as traditionally utilized by Russian military planners is:
(A) Relying on advanced naval technology to project power globally.
(B) Forming tightly knit urban fortifications along the border.
(C) Depending entirely on allied armies for defense.
(D) Using its vast territory to absorb and wear down invaders.

216. Which US President announced the "New World Order" concept emphasizing multilateral cooperation following the collapse of the Soviet Union?
(A) George H.W. Bush
(B) Ronald Reagan
(C) Bill Clinton
(D) Jimmy Carter

217. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) has forced many global companies to change their data privacy practices.
Statement II: The GDPR demonstrates the EU's ability to project normative power in a globalized world.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

218. Which of the following is an incorrect pair regarding European integration theories?
(A) Constructivism - Emphasizes material power over ideas and identities
(B) Functionalism - Focuses on technical cooperation in specific sectors to build peace
(C) Intergovernmentalism - Argues that national states remain the key actors in European integration
(D) Neofunctionalism - Highlights the concept of 'spillover' driving further integration

219. Applying the concept of "Hegemonic Stability Theory," the US role in post-WWII Western Europe provided:
(A) Continuous political instability and economic ruin.
(B) A complete isolation of Europe from global markets.
(C) The immediate spread of communism across the continent.
(D) The security umbrella and framework needed for recovery.

220. Which of the following is an exception to the goals of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)?
(A) Arms control
(B) Establishing a single European currency
(C) Promotion of human rights
(D) Election monitoring

221. "Eurocommunism" was a trend in the 1970s and 1980s defined by:
(A) The Soviet Union adopting the Euro as its official currency.
(B) The forced spread of communism into Western Europe by military means.
(C) Western communist parties distancing from Soviet democratic control.
(D) The merger of capitalist and communist ideologies in the United States.

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threats.

Which of the above statements are correct?

(A) 2, 3, and 5
(B) 1, 2, and 3
(C) 1, 3, and 4
(D) 1, 4, and 5

237. "Multilateralism" in European foreign policy is best defined as:

(A) Unilateral military action without international consultation.
(B) The practice of entirely isolating a state from international diplomacy.
(C) Coordination of national policies in groups of three or more states.
(D) Bilateral trade agreements designed to weaken global institutions.

238. Read the following case and answer the question that follows:

A European country heavily subsidizes a domestic green technology industry to compete globally. However, it faces complaints at the WTO from other major economies claiming these subsidies violate global trade rules.

This scenario illustrates a tension between:

(A) Nationalism and Isolationism
(B) Authoritarianism and Democracy
(C) Traditional security and Human security
(D) State-led industrial policy and the rules of economic globalization

239. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the demographic trends in contemporary Europe.

(A) The European population is the youngest globally, with a massive youth demographic.
(B) Life expectancy is generally high across the continent.
(C) Birth rates in many European countries are below the replacement level.
(D) Aging populations place severe strain on state pension and healthcare systems.

240. The most appropriate reason for the expansion of NATO after the Cold War, from the perspective of Eastern European states, was:

(A) A desire to conquer Russian territory.
(B) Seeking a security guarantee against Russian revanchism.
(C) To access European agricultural subsidies.
(D) To establish a global empire.

241. Which event is considered the symbolic end of the ideological division of Europe?

(A) The signing of the Treaty of Versailles
(B) The fall of the Berlin Wall
(C) The Cuban Missile Crisis
(D) The creation of the Eurozone

242. Given below are two statements:

Statement I: The "Truman Doctrine" established the principle that the US would provide assistance to democratic nations under threat from authoritarian forces.

Statement II: The Marshall Plan was solely a military alliance framework and provided no economic aid.

In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:

(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

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243. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).

Assertion (A): The European Union is often described as a "normative power."

Reason (R): The EU relies heavily on its massive unified standing army to enforce global compliance with its directives.

In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

244. Which of the following is a negative consequence of the Schengen Agreement?

(A) Increased ease of tourism and cross-border trade.
(B) The promotion of cultural exchange.
(C) The reduction of logistical costs for businesses.
(D) Complexity in tracking crime networks across internal borders.

List I: (Terms related to EU trade)
P. Customs Union
Q. Single Market
R. Free Trade Area
S. Non-tariff barriers
List II: (Explanations)
1. Elimination of internal tariffs but no common external tariff
2. Includes free movement of goods, capital, services, and labor
3. Regulations, standards, and quotas that restrict trade
4. Common external tariff combined with elimination of internal tariffs

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4

231. Identify the correct statement regarding European integration and national sovereignty.
(A) Member states cede portion of sovereignty for integration benefits.
(B) EU membership requires the complete eradication of national constitutions.
(C) National parliaments have no role in the EU legislative process.
(D) Sovereign states cannot voluntarily withdraw from the European Union.

232. Consider the following statements about US-Europe economic relations:
1. The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations were successfully concluded and implemented in 2016.
2. The US and EU frequently dispute agricultural standards, such as GMOs and chlorinated chicken.
3. The "Airbus-Boeing" dispute was a long-running trade conflict over state subsidies to aircraft manufacturers.
4. The US is fundamentally opposed to European nations importing liquefied natural gas (LNG).

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) 2 and 3
(B) 1 and 2
(C) 1, 3, and 4
(D) 2, 3, and 4

233. Which of the following correctly pairs a Russian foreign policy tool with its intended strategic outcome?
(A) Cyber-attacks - Bolstering the infrastructure of neighboring states
(B) Energy subsidies to Western Europe - Triggering immediate armed conflict
(C) Disinformation - Exacerbating polarization in Western democracies.
(D) Joining the WTO - Completely isolating the Russian economy

234. Applying the theory of "Securitization," how has the EU handled the issue of unauthorized migration?
(A) Framing it as an existential threat to justify extraordinary measures.
(B) By treating it purely as an economic opportunity with no security implications.
(C) By completely ignoring the issue at the supranational level.
(D) By offering immediate citizenship to all arrivals.

235. The economic shock therapy applied in Russia in the 1990s caused which immediate socio-economic effect?
(A) An instantaneous rise in life expectancy and living standards.
(B) The successful establishment of a purely egalitarian society.
(C) A massive influx of skilled labor from Western Europe.
(D) Hyperinflation, loss of savings, and dropped industrial output.

236. Consider the following statements regarding threats to the erstwhile Soviet Union:
1. The Soviet war in Afghanistan drained military and financial resources.
2. The Chernobyl disaster severely damaged the regime's credibility.
3. The Star Wars program (SDI) proposed by the US pressured the USSR to increase defense spending.
4. Nationalist movements in the republics were entirely absent until 1991.
5. The Soviet Union achieved complete food self-sufficiency, negating external economic

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Union's spatial domain continues to influence modern state interactions, where the control over vital geographic corridors remains a central objective. Consequently, the geostrategic setting acts as the foundational determinant of regional stability. By focusing strictly on these spatial and strategic configurations, policymakers navigate a highly volatile environment where the geopolitical boundaries of the erstwhile Soviet Union intersect with European territorial interests. This persistent geostrategic reality dictates the defensive and offensive capabilities deployed across the continent, highlighting the inseparable link between geography and strategic policy in the region.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

251. What primarily dictates Russia's geostrategic posture towards Europe according to the source?
(A) Its established democratic institutional frameworks
(B) Its vast geography and resource distribution
(C) Its integration into global financial market systems
(D) Its historical cultural exchange models with the West

252. According to the structural case analysis, what does territorial contiguity inevitably breed?
(A) Strategic vulnerabilities
(B) Unprecedented economic prosperity
(C) Democratic consolidation
(D) Complete demilitarization

253. What remains a central objective in modern state interactions influenced by the erstwhile Soviet Union's spatial domain?
(A) The privatization of public infrastructure
(B) The expansion of internal administrative zones
(C) The control over vital geographic corridors
(D) The elimination of national borders

254. What acts as the foundational determinant of regional stability in this context?
(A) The homogenization of legal systems
(B) The elimination of strategic posturing
(C) The cessation of territorial calculations
(D) The geostrategic setting

255. The source highlights an inseparable link between which two elements in the region?
(A) Resource distribution and democratic transitions
(B) Economic prosperity and boundary elimination
(C) Geography and strategic policy
(D) Territorial contiguity and financial markets

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The intersection of nationalism, the Industrial Revolution, and state building fundamentally transformed the European political landscape. During this era, the Industrial Revolution served as an economic catalyst that accelerated the processes of state building by necessitating centralized administrative frameworks and robust infrastructure. A historical case assessment illustrates that as industrial capacities expanded, the ideological force of nationalism was simultaneously mobilized to consolidate fragmented populations into unified nation-states. Nationalism provided the requisite cohesive identity, while the Industrial Revolution supplied the material wealth and technological advancement needed for effective state building. The consolidation of state power relied heavily on this dual dynamic; industrialization funded state apparatuses, and nationalism ensured citizen allegiance. Consequently, state building in Europe was not merely a political endeavor but a deeply integrated socio-economic transformation driven by industrial output and nationalist fervor. This synergy effectively centralized authority, enabling newly built states to manage the complex demands of an industrializing society while forging a homogenized national consciousness. The simultaneous emergence of these phenomena dictates that European state building cannot be analyzed without understanding the profound dependencies between industrial modernization and the unifying ideology of nationalism.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

256. How did the Industrial Revolution accelerate the processes of state building?
(A) By decentralizing regional administrative power
(B) By creating centralized administrative

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245. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Geopolitical events)
P. Formation of the Warsaw Pact
Q. Fall of the Soviet Union
R. Creation of the European Economic Community (EEC)
S. Signing of the Helsinki Accords
List II: (Year)
1. 1955
2. 1991
3. 1957
4. 1975
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(C) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4

246. Identify the correct statement regarding European alliances before World War I.
(A) The alliance system was transparent, public, and flexible.
(B) Secret, rigid alliances pulled the continent into minor conflicts.
(C) The alliances successfully prevented the arms race.
(D) The United States was a core member of the Triple Entente from its inception.

247. Consider the following statements about European strategic autonomy:
1. It aims to enhance Europe's ability to act independently in defense and security matters.
2. It was strongly opposed by French President Emmanuel Macron.
3. It involves creating a European Defence Fund to support joint military capabilities.
4. It requires the immediate dissolution of NATO.
Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 3
(B) 2 and 4
(C) 1, 3, and 4
(D) 1 and 3

248. Which of the following correctly pairs an economic concept with its application in post-war Europe?
(A) Keynesianism - Implementation of mixed economies and welfare states
(B) Laissez-Faire - Total abolition of all state regulations in the Soviet Bloc
(C) Mercantilism - The foundation of the European Single Market
(D) Command Economy - The primary economic model of West Germany

249. Arrange the following major treaties of the European Union in chronological order:
1. Treaty of Lisbon
2. Treaty of Rome
3. Treaty of Maastricht
4. Single European Act
Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence?
(A) 2, 4, 3, 1
(B) 2, 3, 4, 1
(C) 4, 2, 3, 1
(D) 2, 4, 1, 3

250. The profound impact of globalization on European state sovereignty is most accurately described as a cause-effect relationship where:
(A) Global mobility causes states to pool regulatory sovereignty.
(B) Globalization causes the complete physical dissolution of state borders.
(C) Global cultural exchange causes states to aggressively expand territorially.
(D) Economic globalization causes European states to revert to feudalism.

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The geopolitical and geostrategic setting of Europe and the erstwhile Soviet Union, including Russia, establishes a complex framework of territorial and strategic calculations. In assessing this setting, security analysts observe that the geographic vastness and resource distribution of Russia dictate its geostrategic posture towards Europe. The European geopolitical environment is continually shaped by the overlapping boundaries of the erstwhile Soviet Union, compelling neighboring states to recalibrate their security paradigms. A structural case analysis of this geopolitical setting reveals that territorial contiguity inevitably breeds strategic vulnerabilities, prompting both Europe and Russia to engage in continuous geostrategic posturing. The erstwhile Soviet

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222. The implementation of the Schengen Agreement directly caused which effect on internal European security dynamics?
(A) It caused the immediate collapse of all national police forces.
(B) It led to the complete cessation of all European trade.
(C) It forced European countries to build physical walls on their internal borders.
(D) It enabled internal crime tracking and the creation of Europol.

223. Identify the correct statement regarding the impact of the 2015 migration crisis on European politics.
(A) It caused deep divisions between Western and Eastern states.
(B) It led to universal agreement on refugee quotas among all EU member states.
(C) It resulted in the immediate expulsion of all refugees from Europe.
(D) It strengthened the consensus for open borders across the entire continent without any political backlash.

224. Which competency correctly identifies the relationship between nationalism and state-building in the Balkans in the 19th century?
(A) Concluding that the region smoothly integrated into a single, unified Balkan megastate.
(B) Nationalist uprisings led to independent states like Greece.
(C) Demonstrating that nationalism was successfully suppressed by the British Empire in the region.
(D) Proving that state-building in the Balkans was driven entirely by the Industrial Revolution.

225. The most appropriate term for the ideological shift in Eastern Europe post-1989 towards free markets and democratic governance is:
(A) Democratic Backsliding
(B) The Democratic Transition
(C) Authoritarian Consolidation
(D) Proletarian Internationalism

226. What is the primary purpose of the EU's Frontex agency?
(A) Coordinating the management of the EU's external borders
(B) Managing agricultural subsidies
(C) Regulating the European banking sector
(D) Conducting joint space missions

227. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The "Brain Drain" is a significant internal demographic challenge for many Eastern European states.
Statement II: The free movement of labor within the EU exacerbates the Brain Drain from East to West.
In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

228. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Globalization has led to a revitalization of regionalist and separatist movements in Europe, such as in Scotland and Catalonia.
Reason (R): Globalization weakens the economic relevance of the traditional nation-state, leading regions to seek direct integration into the global economy while asserting their distinct cultural identities.
In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

229. Which of the following is NOT a member of the G7?
(A) Germany
(B) Italy
(C) Russia
(D) France

230. Match List I with List II:

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frameworks
(C) By removing the necessity for modern infrastructure
(D) By actively promoting fragmented populations

257. According to the source, what was the primary function of nationalism during this era?
(A) To supply material wealth and technological growth
(B) To act as a primary economic catalyst for trade
(C) To decentralize existing political authority systems
(D) To unite fragmented populations into nation-states

258. The consolidation of state power relied heavily on what dual dynamic?
(A) Industrialization funding states and nationalism ensuring loyalty
(B) Decentralization of power and agricultural growth strategies
(C) Fragmented identities and decentralized administrative structures
(D) Global trade systems and international diplomatic accords

259. State building in Europe is described as a deeply integrated socio-economic transformation driven by what?
(A) International aid and global markets
(B) Agrarian reform and decentralized governance
(C) Industrial output and nationalist fervor
(D) Cultural assimilation and democratic elections

260. What did the synergy between nationalism and the Industrial Revolution enable newly built states to do?
(A) Manage complex demands and forge a national consciousness
(B) Avoid the systemic demands of an industrializing society
(C) Dissolve established homogenized national consciousness
(D) Eliminate centralized government authority entirely

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The period encompassing Europe between the two World Wars was characterized by profound systemic instability and structural vulnerability. A strategic analysis of Europe between two World Wars reveals a continent grappling with the immediate aftermath of global conflict while simultaneously setting the stage for future hostilities. During this volatile interwar period, European states attempted to rebuild shattered economies and establish sustainable security architectures, yet these efforts were consistently undermined by systemic fragility. The socio-political environment of Europe between two World Wars demonstrates how unresolved geopolitical tensions and economic distress coalesced to destabilize the newly formed state boundaries. Diplomatic frameworks established during this time proved inadequate in mitigating the compounding pressures of domestic upheaval and regional rivalries. Case evaluations of interwar policies indicate that the failure to establish enduring institutional security directly precipitated the subsequent global conflict. The transitional phase of Europe between the two World Wars remains a critical study of diplomatic failure and structural collapse, illustrating how superficial peace agreements and economic vulnerability operate as catalysts for subsequent systemic warfare within the European theater.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

261. How is the period of Europe between the two World Wars primarily characterized in the source?
(A) Unprecedented and sustainable economic prosperity
(B) Successful institutional security framework projects
(C) The total resolution of deep geopolitical tensions
(D) Profound systemic instability and structural vulnerability

262. What undermined the European states' attempts to rebuild economies and establish security architectures during the interwar period?
(A) Technological stagnation
(B) Systemic fragility
(C) Successful peace agreements

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9. (A) 4, 1, 3, 2
The formation of NATO occurred in 1949 to provide collective security against the Soviet Union. The Warsaw Pact followed in 1955 as a direct counter-alliance. Decades later, the reunification of Germany took place in 1990, signaling the end of the Cold War division. Finally, the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991 marked the conclusion of this era.

10. (A) The creation of buffer states in Eastern Europe
Russia's western frontier is characterized by the vast North European Plain, which lacks significant natural barriers like mountains. This vulnerability has historically driven Russian leaders to seek control over neighboring territories to create a defensive buffer zone. By establishing these buffer states, Russia aimed to increase the distance an invading army would have to travel before reaching its heartland.

11. (D) 1, 2, 3, and 5
Europe is defined as a peninsula of peninsulas with an extensive network of navigable rivers and critical chokepoints like Gibraltar. Its fragmented geography naturally fostered the development of numerous independent nation-states. However, it does not feature a single, unbroken plain stretching from Spain to the Urals, as various mountain ranges and highlands break the continuity of the landmass.

12. (B) Fragmentation into smaller, mutually hostile regions or states
Balkanization refers to the process where a larger state or region breaks apart into smaller, often ethnically diverse and mutually hostile units. This term originated from the conflicts and territorial changes in the Balkan Peninsula during the early twentieth century. It highlights the instability and potential for violence when central authority collapses in regions with deep-seated historical and ethnic divisions.

13. (C) Russian Federation
The Russian Federation is characterized by a vast landmass and abundant natural resources, yet it faces demographic decline and limited warm-water port access. Energy exports, particularly oil and gas, remain a primary tool for maintaining its geopolitical influence over neighboring regions. These specific geographic and socio-economic attributes distinguish it from other European powers like the United Kingdom or Germany.

14. (D) It had the world's longest, year-round navigable coastline.
While the Soviet Union possessed an extremely long coastline, much of it was located along the Arctic Ocean and remained frozen for several months of the year. This geographic constraint prevented the coastline from being year-round navigable. The state successfully utilized its vast territory for strategic depth and bordered various regions, but its maritime capabilities were always hampered by ice.

15. (A) It serves as an ice-free port on the Baltic Sea near NATO.
Kaliningrad is a Russian exclave situated between Poland and Lithuania, providing Russia with a strategic, ice-free naval base on the Baltic Sea. Its location is particularly significant because it is surrounded by NATO member states, allowing Russia to project military power deep into Northern Europe. This presence serves as a critical counterweight to Western military movements in the region.

16. (B) Nationalism
Nationalism was the primary force that led to the fragmentation and eventual collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The empire comprised diverse ethnic and linguistic groups who sought self-determination and the creation of their own independent nation-states. By the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, these internal pressures became unmanageable, leading to the emergence of several new countries after the war.

17. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The Industrial Revolution transformed state power by linking military strength to industrial capacity and technological innovation. It enabled the mass production of advanced weaponry and the development of efficient transportation networks like railways. State building in nineteenth-century Europe was deeply intertwined with these advancements, as industrialized nations could sustain larger

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(A) Through comprehensive and deep diplomatic consensus
(B) Through the dissolution of rigid spheres of influence
(C) Through heavily armed standoff rather than diplomatic consensus
(D) Through the total disarmament of all satellite states

270. What did both NATO and the Warsaw Pact prioritize among their member states?
(A) Economic independence and diverse foreign policies
(B) Total territorial disarmament and open border policies
(C) Diplomatic flexibility and ideological neutrality
(D) Collective military readiness and ideological conformity

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The evolution of European alliances and accords is profoundly marked by the implementation of the Helsinki Accord and the institutional growth of the EU. A policy evaluation demonstrates that the Helsinki Accord functioned as a vital diplomatic instrument, emphasizing territorial integrity and conflict mitigation through formal accords rather than military confrontation. Building upon these cooperative diplomatic principles, the European Union (EU) emerged as an unprecedented model of political and economic integration. The structural framework of the EU transitioned European states from traditional sovereignty models to a system of pooled sovereignty, facilitating deep institutional alliances. The Helsinki Accord provided the normative groundwork for security and cooperation, which the EU subsequently expanded into comprehensive economic and political governance. The strategic integration fostered by the EU illustrates a shift from bilateral alliances to a cohesive supranational structure. Consequently, the interplay between the normative commitments of the Helsinki Accord and the structural integration of the EU highlights a transformative era in European alliances and accords. This cooperative approach successfully redefined regional stability by prioritizing economic interdependence and diplomatic institutionalization over traditional military balancing.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

271. What did the Helsinki Accord function as, according to the policy evaluation?
(A) A collective military and strategic defense alliance
(B) An economic union focused on transborder financial flows
(C) A diplomatic instrument emphasizing territorial integrity
(D) A supranational structure meant to replace the EU

272. The structural framework of the EU transitioned European states to what type of system?
(A) A system of rigid military balancing
(B) A system of pooled sovereignty
(C) A traditional sovereignty model
(D) A fragmented bilateral alliance system

273. What role did the Helsinki Accord play in relation to the European Union's development?
(A) It dismantled the structural integration of the EU
(B) It initiated a shift towards military balancing
(C) It restricted comprehensive economic governance
(D) Normative groundwork for security and cooperation

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274. The strategic integration fostered by the EU illustrates a shift from bilateral alliances to what?
(A) Supranational structure
(B) Military balancing
(C) Sovereignty models
(D) Formal confrontation

275. How did the cooperative approach of the Helsinki Accord and the EU redefine regional stability?
(A) Prioritizing traditional military balancing over diplomacy
(B) Rejecting normative commitments to territorial integrity
(C) Economic interdependence and diplomatic institutionalization
(D) Eliminating the need for economic and political governance

298. Why are national governments compelled to recalibrate their policy frameworks?
(A) To isolate themselves from transborder financial flows
(B) To remain competitive against transnational economic shocks
(C) To bypass conventional border controls permanently
(D) To restore localized and protected economic monopolies

299. In the socio-political realm, the impact of globalisation is evident in what phenomenon?
(A) To restore localized and protected economic monopolies
(B) The homogenization of institutional practices
(C) The complete eradication of systemic dependencies
(D) The halting of transborder financial flows

300. The source concludes that the impact of globalisation acts as a dual-edged mechanism because it does what?
(A) A catalyst for modernization generating dependencies
(B) Decreased modernization while increasing border controls
(C) Eliminating economic connectivity while maintaining sovereignty
(D) Deterring integration while reducing transnational shocks

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infrastructure, directly impacting the parameters of human security. Furthermore, unresolved ethnic problems frequently act as catalysts for displacement, generating continuous waves of refugees that cross territorial borders. Human security frameworks prioritize the protection of individuals, yet systemic ethnic problems continuously undermine these protective measures by fostering deep-seated societal divisions. The management of migration refugees requires comprehensive policy responses that address both immediate humanitarian needs and the underlying ethnic problems driving the displacement. Evaluating the impact on human security demonstrates that when states fail to resolve ethnic problems, they invariably face escalating crises related to migration refugees. Consequently, securing human populations necessitates a dual approach: mitigating the immediate impacts of refugee migration while implementing sustainable resolutions to systemic ethnic problems. This dynamic underscores the fragility of human security when confronted with complex demographic and ethno-nationalistic challenges.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

281. What critically tests the paradigm of human security in the discussed region?
(A) Migration refugees and pervasive ethnic problems
(B) The expansion of regional infrastructure projects
(C) The implementation of strict territorial border controls
(D) The total elimination of deep societal divisions

282. According to the socio-political case study, what is a direct impact of the influx of migration refugees?
(A) Immediate resolution of ethnic problems
(B) Immense strain on regional infrastructure
(C) The strengthening of human security parameters
(D) The elimination of deep-seated societal divisions

283. How do unresolved ethnic problems affect population movement?
(A) They stabilize populations and prevent border movement
(B) Catalysts for displacement, generating waves of refugees
(C) They resolve structural vulnerabilities in infrastructure
(D) They eliminate the need for immediate humanitarian needs

284. What frequently happens when states fail to resolve ethnic problems?
(A) Escalating crises related to migration refugees
(B) A decrease in ethno-nationalistic challenges
(C) Strengthened human security frameworks
(D) Automatic securing of human populations

285. Securing human populations in this context necessitates a dual approach that includes what?
(A) Expanding borders and increasing systemic ethnic divisions
(B) Ignoring humanitarian needs and reinforcing societal divisions
(C) Mitigating refugee impacts and resolving ethnic problems
(D) Focusing only on regional infrastructure and demographics

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Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The economic architecture of Europe and its relations with the erstwhile Soviet Union rely heavily on the integration of trade, development cooperation, and the forging of strategic partnerships. An economic case analysis indicates that robust trade mechanisms serve as the primary engine for regional growth, facilitating the exchange of vital resources and manufactured goods. To ensure equitable growth, trade is closely coupled with structured development cooperation, which aims to elevate the economic capacities of transitioning economies. Furthermore, establishing strategic partnerships solidifies these economic ties, transforming transactional trade into long-term institutional commitments. The synergy between trade, development cooperation, and strategic partnerships fosters a resilient economic environment capable of withstanding regional volatility. When states engage in extensive development cooperation, they simultaneously lay the groundwork for enduring strategic partnerships

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The contemporary European and erstwhile Soviet regional architecture is continuously challenged by complex internal and external threats to state security. A security case analysis reveals that external threats to state security often manifest through aggressive geopolitical posturing and territorial disputes, fundamentally challenging the sovereign boundaries of nations. Simultaneously, internal threats to state security undermine national stability through domestic fragmentation and systemic administrative failures. The convergence of these internal and external threats necessitates a comprehensive reassessment of traditional defense paradigms. States must navigate a dual vulnerability where external pressures exacerbate internal divisions, creating a volatile security environment. External threats necessitate robust defense mechanisms and strategic deterrence, while internal threats require strong domestic governance and social cohesion. Assessing state security frameworks indicates that the inability to neutralize internal threats frequently invites external opportunistic interference. Consequently, maintaining state security demands an integrated policy approach that simultaneously neutralizes domestic instability and deters foreign aggression. The ongoing management of both internal and external threats remains a paramount operational objective for safeguarding the sovereignty and institutional integrity of states within this geopolitical sphere.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

276. How do external threats to state security often manifest in the described region?
(A) Aggressive geopolitical posturing and territorial disputes
(B) Domestic fragmentation and systemic administrative failures
(C) Strong domestic governance and internal social cohesion
(D) The reassessment of traditional defense paradigms

277. What is a primary cause of internal threats to state security according to the source?
(A) Aggressive territorial disputes and foreign posturing
(B) Robust defense mechanisms and strategic military deterrence
(C) Strategic deterrence and opportunistic foreign interference
(D) Domestic fragmentation and systemic administrative failures

278. What occurs when states face a "dual vulnerability"?
(A) Social cohesion eliminates external territorial disputes
(B) External pressures exacerbate internal divisions
(C) Internal administrative failures neutralize geopolitical posturing
(D) Domestic instability deters foreign aggression

279. According to the state security assessment, what frequently happens when a state is unable to neutralize internal threats?
(A) It eliminates the need for strong domestic governance
(B) It resolves territorial disputes with neighboring nations
(C) It frequently invites external opportunistic interference
(D) It naturally produces robust defense mechanisms

280. What kind of policy approach is demanded to maintain state security against these converging threats?
(A) An approach relying solely on strategic military deterrence
(B) An approach prioritizing external defense over governance
(C) An approach ignoring internal threats for territorial borders
(D) An approach neutralizing instability and foreign aggression

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The paradigm of human security in Europe and the erstwhile Soviet Union is critically tested by the intersecting challenges of migration refugees and pervasive ethnic problems. A socio-political case study highlights how the influx of migration refugees places immense strain on regional

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(B) From a regional adversary to an economic competitor
(C) From an external balancer to a security guarantor
(D) From a structural parameter to a detached observer

292. What does the sustained presence of American military and diplomatic assets dictate in Europe?
(A) Regional defense postures and alliance formations
(B) The dissolution of Western alliances
(C) The elimination of transatlantic relationships
(D) The strategic calculus of modern Russia toward Asia

293. According to the source, American involvement in European institutional stability is described as what?
(A) Merely supplementary
(B) Historically obsolete
(C) Detrimental
(D) Foundational

294. By actively participating in European security and diplomatic frameworks, the US shapes what?
(A) The internal administrative laws of modern Russia
(B) The parameters of European integration and defense
(C) The localized economic monopolies of European states
(D) The detachment of Western alliances from global trade

295. What function does the role of the US in Europe serve regarding regional security dilemmas?
(A) It exacerbates regional security dilemmas
(B) It ignores regional security dilemmas to focus on economic trade
(C) It functions as a crucial stabilizing mechanism mitigating them
(D) It delegates them entirely to the erstwhile Soviet Union

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The impact of globalisation has fundamentally restructured the economic, political, and social paradigms of Europe and the erstwhile Soviet Union. A structural case analysis reveals that the impact of globalisation manifests through the rapid integration of domestic markets into a singular, highly interdependent international economic system. This systemic integration accelerates transborder financial flows and technological exchanges, drastically altering traditional state sovereignty. Furthermore, the impact of globalisation compels national governments to recalibrate their policy frameworks to remain competitive and resilient against transnational economic shocks. While globalisation promotes unprecedented economic connectivity, its impact simultaneously exposes states to exogenous vulnerabilities that bypass conventional border controls. The socio-political impact of globalisation is evident in the homogenization of institutional practices and the erosion of localized economic monopolies. Evaluating this phenomenon indicates that states must constantly adapt their governance structures to manage the multifaceted impact of globalisation. Consequently, the impact of globalisation acts as a dual-edged mechanism; it serves as a powerful catalyst for modernization and integration while simultaneously generating new complexities and systemic dependencies within the regional order.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

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296. How does the impact of globalisation primarily manifest economically?
(A) Through the isolation of domestic market systems
(B) Through the elimination of transborder financial flows
(C) Through the reinforcement of state sovereignty models
(D) Integration of markets into an international system

297. What does the systemic integration driven by globalisation drastically alter?
(A) Traditional state sovereignty
(B) Transborder technological exchanges
(C) Unprecedented economic connectivity
(D) Exogenous vulnerabilities

(D) Robust diplomatic frameworks

263. What factors coalesced to destabilize the newly formed state boundaries in interwar Europe?
(A) Widespread economic prosperity and domestic stability
(B) Enduring institutional security and superficial peace
(C) Unresolved geopolitical tensions and economic distress
(D) Technological advancements and global trade dynamics

264. According to case evaluations of interwar policies, what directly precipitated the subsequent global conflict?
(A) The creation of robust and stable diplomatic frameworks
(B) The successful rebuilding of shattered economic bases
(C) The total elimination of domestic upheaval and unrest
(D) The failure to establish enduring institutional security

265. The transitional phase of Europe between the two World Wars illustrates that superficial peace agreements and economic vulnerability operate as what?
(A) Catalysts for subsequent systemic warfare
(B) Mechanisms for long-term regional stability
(C) Solutions to regional rivalries
(D) Foundations for sustainable security architectures

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The formulation of alliances and accords in Europe, specifically the establishment of NATO and the Warsaw Pact, fundamentally institutionalized the regional security architecture. A comparative case analysis of these military alliances illustrates how they bifurcated the continent into two opposing strategic blocs. NATO was conceptualized as a collective defense alliance designed to consolidate Western European security arrangements. Conversely, the Warsaw Pact emerged as an institutionalized countermeasure, binding the erstwhile Soviet Union and its satellite states into a unified military accord. These alliances and accords operated on the principle of mutually assured deterrence, dictating the defense postures and strategic deployments across Europe. The operational dynamics between NATO and the Warsaw Pact define a period where regional stability was maintained through heavily armed standoff rather than diplomatic consensus. Evaluating the structural integrity of these alliances reveals that both frameworks prioritized collective military readiness and strict ideological conformity among member states. Ultimately, the dichotomy of NATO and the Warsaw Pact exemplifies how alliances and accords were utilized not merely as defense pacts, but as comprehensive geopolitical instruments to project power and maintain rigid spheres of influence.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

266. What was the fundamental impact of the establishment of NATO and the Warsaw Pact on Europe?
(A) It unified the continent under a single economic bloc
(B) It institutionalized the regional security architecture
(C) It eliminated the need for strategic force deployments
(D) It replaced military deterrence with diplomatic consensus

267. How is NATO conceptualized in the source?
(A) An institutionalized countermeasure for the Soviets
(B) A collective defense alliance for Western security
(C) An economic union designed for Eastern European states
(D) A diplomatic framework for expanding global trade

268. On what principle did NATO and the Warsaw Pact operate?
(A) Assured deterrence
(B) Unilateral disarmament
(C) Economic integration
(D) Ideological diversity

269. How was regional stability maintained during the period defined by NATO and the Warsaw Pact?

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ANSWERS

1. (B) Heartland Theory
Halford Mackinder's Heartland Theory identified a geographical pivot of history located in the interior of Eurasia. This region, largely comprising the territory of the former Soviet Union, was seen as impregnable to sea power. Mackinder argued that control over this area would allow a state to dominate the world island and, consequently, gain global dominance.

2. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The Heartland Theory emphasizes that controlling Eastern Europe is the gateway to dominating the Eurasian core. Conversely, the Rimland Theory identifies the coastal fringes of Eurasia as the most vital region for global influence. Both frameworks highlight different geographic priorities for achieving strategic dominance, reflecting the diverse perspectives on land-based and sea-oriented power in geopolitical history.

3. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Russia's geostrategic behavior is heavily influenced by its geography, particularly the lack of year-round maritime access. Most of its northern coastlines remain frozen for much of the year, which significantly hinders trade and naval mobility. Consequently, Russia has historically prioritized the acquisition of warm-water ports to ensure reliable, year-round maritime operations and global commercial connectivity.

4. (D) A landlocked geography with no direct ocean access
Europe is characterized by a high degree of coastal articulation, featuring numerous peninsulas and internal seas that provide exceptional maritime accessibility. Its geography is further enhanced by interconnected river systems and proximity to Africa and the Middle East. Describing the continent as landlocked is inaccurate, as its history and economy are fundamentally tied to its extensive ocean access.

NODIA

5. (C) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
Halford Mackinder is associated with the Heartland Theory, while Nicholas Spykman developed the Rimland Theory. Alfred Thayer Mahan focused on the influence of sea power on historical development. Friedrich Ratzel introduced the concept of Lebensraum, viewing the state as an organic entity needing space. These theories provide the foundational framework for understanding modern global strategic and political dynamics.

6. (B) It spanned eleven time zones, offering depth and challenges.
The Soviet Union occupied a massive landmass that spanned eleven different time zones, extending from Eastern Europe to the Pacific Ocean. This vast territory provided significant strategic depth, making it difficult for invaders to conquer. However, the immense size also presented substantial challenges regarding internal administration, communication, and the efficient defense of its long and diverse international borders.

7. (D) 1, 2, and 4
The North European Plain has served as a historical invasion route, while the Alps provide a natural southern defense for Italy. The Bosporus Strait is a critical chokepoint for Black Sea access. However, the Baltic Sea is not entirely ice-free, which limits naval operations. Thus, geographic features like plains and straits significantly shape European security and military strategy.

8. (A) Ural Mountains - Geographic boundary between Europe and Asia
The Ural Mountains serve as the traditional geographic dividing line between the continents of Europe and Asia. While they are not an impassable barrier, they define the eastern extent of the European landmass within the Russian Federation. Other regional features, like the Black Sea or Carpathian Mountains, hold different strategic roles involving maritime access or regional energy transit infrastructure.

that transcend mere economic benefit. Evaluating this trilateral framework reveals that strategic partnerships are fundamentally sustained by mutual dependencies created through continuous trade and development cooperation. Ultimately, this integrated approach dictates the economic viability of the region, ensuring that commercial interactions translate into sustainable developmental progress and deeply entrenched strategic alliances.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

286. What serves as the primary engine for regional growth according to the economic_case analysis?
(A) Strategic partnerships
(B) Regional volatility
(C) Transactional trade elimination
(D) Robust trade mechanisms

287. What is the aim of coupling trade with structured development cooperation?
(A) To increase regional volatility
(B) To transform long-term commitments into transactional trade
(C) To elevate the economic capacities of transitioning economies
(D) To isolate transitioning economies from the exchange of vital resources

288. How do strategic partnerships affect economic ties in the region?
(A) They replace structured development cooperation entirely
(B) Transforming transactional trade into institutional commitments
(C) They eliminate the mutual dependencies between states
(D) They decouple trade from equitable growth policies

289. What fundamentally sustains strategic partnerships in this trilateral framework?
(A) Isolation of manufactured goods and regional volatility
(B) The total rejection of commercial interactions
(C) The restriction of equitable growth mechanisms
(D) Mutual dependencies through trade and development

290. The integrated approach of trade, development, and partnerships ensures that commercial interactions translate into what?
(A) Sustainable developmental progress and strategic alliances
(B) Regional volatility and transactional trade exchanges
(C) Short-term economic benefits and reduced state capacity
(D) Mere economic benefit without any mutual dependency

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The role of the US in Europe constitutes a definitive variable in the continent's strategic and political configuration. A geopolitical case assessment emphasizes that the role of the US in Europe has historically transitioned from an external balancer to an deeply integrated security guarantor. The sustained presence of American military and diplomatic assets underscores how the role of the US in Europe dictates regional defense postures and alliance formations. Furthermore, the role of the US in Europe heavily influences the strategic calculus of European states when navigating relations with the erstwhile Soviet Union and modern Russia. This transatlantic relationship demonstrates that American involvement is not merely supplementary but foundational to European institutional stability. By actively participating in European security and diplomatic frameworks, the US shapes the structural parameters within which European integration and defense policies operate. The role of the US in Europe, therefore, functions as a crucial stabilizing mechanism, mitigating regional security dilemmas and reinforcing the collective strategic objectives of Western alliances. Ultimately, evaluating European geopolitics requires acknowledging the indispensable and continuous role of the US.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

291. How has the role of the US in Europe historically transitioned?
(A) From a security guarantor to an external balancer

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armies and project power more effectively than their agrarian rivals.

18. (A) Klemens von Metternich - Greek Independence
Klemens von Metternich was a conservative statesman who championed the balance of power and generally opposed revolutionary movements that threatened the established order. He did not support Greek independence, as he feared it would destabilize the Ottoman Empire and inspire nationalist uprisings elsewhere. In contrast, figures like Bismarck and Cavour were instrumental in the successful unification of Germany and Italy.

19. (C) It drove new imperialism to secure raw materials and markets.
Industrialization created an insatiable demand for raw materials and new markets to sell manufactured goods. This economic necessity drove European powers to expand their colonial empires across Africa and Asia during the late nineteenth century. This era of "new imperialism" was characterized by intense competition between industrialized nations to secure strategic resources and establish global commercial dominance and influence.

20. (D) Total elimination of internal linguistic and cultural identities
While nineteenth-century state building involved centralizing authority and promoting national languages, it did not result in the total elimination of all internal cultural identities. Regional dialects and traditions often persisted despite efforts to create a unified national culture. Most states focused on administrative consolidation and infrastructure development, but diverse local identities remained a persistent feature within many emerging European nation-states.

21. (C) Ideology that the nation and state should be congruent
Nationalism in the nineteenth century was the belief that people sharing a common language, culture, or history should be governed by their own sovereign state. This ideology sought to align political boundaries with ethnic or national groupings. It acted as a powerful catalyst for both the unification of fragmented regions and the dissolution of multi-ethnic empires across the European continent.

22. (B) The emergence of a powerful industrial bourgeoisie and organized labor movements
The Industrial Revolution significantly altered social structures by creating a wealthy class of factory owners and a large urban working class. These groups developed distinct political interests, leading to the rise of organized labor movements and the demand for greater representation. These socio-economic shifts influenced political alliances as states attempted to manage internal class tensions while maintaining industrial productivity.

23. (D) It was influenced by conscription and mass citizen armies.
European state building in the nineteenth century was closely tied to the development of mass citizen armies through conscription. This practice not only strengthened a state's military capacity but also helped foster a shared national identity among the population. The ability to mobilize large segments of society was essential for the territorial consolidation and defense of newly formed nation-states.

24. (A) Identifying Serbian nationalism as a catalyst for the war.
Serbian nationalism played a pivotal role in triggering World War I, particularly through the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand. This act was driven by the desire to liberate South Slavs from Austro-Hungarian rule and create a Greater Serbia. This specific nationalist movement ignited a complex web of alliances that ultimately led to a full-scale global conflict involving major powers.

25. (C) Russia experienced rapid industrialization while remaining agrarian.
By the late nineteenth century, the Russian Empire underwent significant state-led industrialization, particularly in the steel and railway sectors. However, the vast majority of the population remained engaged in traditional agrarian labor. This created a dual economy where modern industrial centers existed alongside a largely feudal rural society, contributing to deep social tensions and the eventual instability of the imperial regime.

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26. (A) Woodrow Wilson
Woodrow Wilson prominently advocated for the principle of national self-determination as part of his Fourteen Points following World War I. He argued that ethnic groups should have the right to govern themselves and determine their own political status. This concept significantly influenced the redrawing of the European map, leading to the creation of several new states from former multi-ethnic empires.

27. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
The Treaty of Versailles was notably punitive, imposing heavy reparations and territorial losses on Germany, which hindered its democratic integration. Meanwhile, the League of Nations was structurally weak because it possessed no military force and relied entirely on the voluntary cooperation of member states to enforce its resolutions. This lack of enforcement capability ultimately undermined the League's ability to maintain global peace.

28. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The inter-war period was marked by the rise of fascist and totalitarian regimes as citizens sought stability amidst chaos. The Great Depression caused widespread economic misery and hyperinflation, which shattered public confidence in existing democratic governments. Authoritarian leaders exploited this desperation by promising order and economic recovery, leading to the collapse of many fragile democracies established after the first world war.

29. (C) Spain
Spain was an established kingdom that did not undergo creation or reconstitution as a result of the territorial changes after World War I. In contrast, states like Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia were either newly formed or reconstituted from the remnants of the defeated German, Austro-Hungarian, and Russian empires. Spain remained largely outside the immediate geopolitical redrawing of Eastern and Central Europe.

30. (D) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
The Locarno Treaties guaranteed Western European borders, while the Kellogg-Briand Pact saw nations renounce war as a policy tool. The Treaty of Rapallo involved mutual recognition between Germany and Soviet Russia. Finally, the Munich Agreement permitted Germany to annex the Sudetenland. These agreements highlight the varying attempts at stabilization and the subsequent failures that characterized European diplomacy during the inter-war years.

31. (A) It implemented the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact with Nazi Germany in 1939.
In 1939, the Soviet Union signed the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, a non-aggression agreement with Nazi Germany that included secret protocols for dividing Eastern Europe. This strategic move allowed the USSR to expand its influence while delaying a direct conflict with Germany. At the time, the Soviet Union was not a founding member of the League and held drastically different ideological priorities.

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32. (B) 1, 2, and 3
Between the wars, the Weimar Republic faced extreme economic and political instability. France demanded strict treaty enforcement for security, while Great Britain eventually adopted a policy of appeasement to avoid another conflict. Italy, under Mussolini, did not form a democratic alliance with the Soviets; instead, it moved toward fascism and eventually aligned with Nazi Germany, rejecting democratic principles and Soviet communism.

33. (B) Adolf Hitler - National Socialism
Adolf Hitler led the Nazi Party, which was built on the ideology of National Socialism, emphasizing racial purity and territorial expansion. During the same period, Joseph Stalin led the Soviet Union under Communism, while Benito Mussolini established a Fascist regime in Italy. Neville Chamberlain was a British democratic leader, and his policy of appeasement was a diplomatic strategy rather than a Marxist-Leninist ideology.

34. (A) Diplomatic concession to avoid conflict
Appeasement is a diplomatic strategy where concessions are made to an aggressive power to prevent an outbreak of war. In the 1930s, Western powers used this approach with Nazi Germany, hoping that satisfying territorial demands would maintain European peace. However, this policy failed to deter aggression and is now often

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cited as a cautionary example in the study of international relations.

35. (C) Economic collapse and the rise of Nazism
The Treaty of Versailles imposed staggering financial reparations on Germany, leading to severe hyperinflation and economic ruin. This widespread suffering undermined the legitimacy of the Weimar Republic and created a vacuum that the Nazi Party exploited. By promising economic restoration and national pride, Hitler gained the support necessary to dismantle democracy and lead Germany toward a second global conflict.

36. (D) 1, 3, and 4
The League of Nations lost credibility as it failed to effectively respond to the Spanish Civil War, the Italian invasion of Abyssinia, and the Nazi invasion of Poland. These events demonstrated the League's inability to prevent aggression or enforce collective security. The lack of a standing army and the absence of key powers meant that the League could not stop the slide toward war.

37. (C) Radical authoritarian nationalism with dictatorial power
Fascism is a far-right political ideology characterized by dictatorial power, the suppression of opposition, and strong regimentation of society and the economy. It emphasizes radical nationalism and often involves the glorification of military strength and the state over individual rights. In inter-war Europe, fascist movements gained momentum by promising national rejuvenation and social order through absolute leadership and national unity.

38. (B) The Policy of Appeasement
The Munich Agreement of 1938 is the definitive example of the policy of appeasement. By allowing Germany to annex the Sudetenland, Britain and France hoped to satisfy Hitler's territorial ambitions and prevent a wider war. This decision, however, only emboldened the Nazi regime and demonstrated the failure of making unilateral concessions to an aggressive state to maintain regional stability.

39. (D) The Great Depression had no significant impact on European industrial output.
The Great Depression had a devastating impact on Europe, causing a massive decline in industrial output and skyrocketing unemployment. Most nations struggled with immense war debts and adopted protectionist policies that worsened the global economic crisis. Plans like the Dawes and Young Plans were specifically designed to manage the unsustainable reparations that were further crippling the German and wider European economies.

40. (A) Absence of major powers and enforcement mechanisms.
The League of Nations failed primarily because it lacked the participation of major powers, most notably the United States, and had no effective means to enforce its decisions. Without a standing military or the full support of all dominant global actors, the organization could not deter aggressive states or resolve significant international disputes, leading to its eventual irrelevance and replacement.

41. (C) The Washington Treaty
The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was established by the signing of the Washington Treaty on April 4, 1949. This landmark agreement created a collective defense alliance between North American and Western European nations. Its primary purpose was to deter Soviet aggression and ensure the security of the North Atlantic area through a commitment to mutual assistance and coordinated military cooperation.

42. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Article 5 is the cornerstone of the NATO treaty, establishing that an armed attack against one member is considered an attack against all. However, the Warsaw Pact was not formed before NATO; it was created in 1955 as a direct response to the integration of West Germany into NATO. NATO's formation in 1949 preceded the formalization of the Soviet-led military alliance.

43. (D) European Union (Maastricht Treaty) - 1985
The Maastricht Treaty, which formally established the European Union, was signed in 1992 and entered into force in 1993, not 1985. Other major milestones include the creation of NATO in 1949 and the Warsaw Pact in 1955. The Helsinki Accords were signed in 1975, representing a significant effort to improve relations between

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77. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
During the Cold War, the US nuclear umbrella provided a critical security guarantee for Western Europe against Soviet threats. After the Cold War ended, the US did not dismantle its military presence; instead, it maintained significant troop levels and bases across the continent. This ongoing commitment remains a key element of the European security architecture and continues to underwrite regional stability.

78. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The US role in European security sometimes creates friction because of differing strategic priorities among EU member states. Some nations advocate for "strategic autonomy" and a more independent European defense capability. Conversely, many Eastern European states view American involvement as the only credible deterrent against Russia. These internal debates highlight the complex challenge of balancing European integration with traditional transatlantic security alliances.

79. (A) France
France was a prominent opponent of the 2003 US-led invasion of Iraq, arguing that the conflict lacked international legitimacy and sufficient evidence of weapons of mass destruction. This stance caused a temporary but significant rift in the transatlantic relationship. In contrast, the United Kingdom, Poland, and Spain initially supported and joined the coalition, reflecting the deep divisions within Europe over the intervention.

80. (B) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
The Marshall Plan focused on economic reconstruction, while the Truman Doctrine supported Greece and Turkey against communist threats. More recently, the "Pivot to Asia" shifted US strategic focus toward the Indo-Pacific, and "America First" policies raised concerns about the strength of the NATO commitment. These shifts illustrate how changing American global priorities directly impact the security perceptions and policies of European states.

81. (B) Played a decisive role in the Dayton Accords and NATO bombing.
In the 1990s, the United States intervened decisively in the Balkan conflicts to end ethnic violence and instability. US leadership was essential in negotiating the Dayton Accords, which ended the Bosnian War, and in directing NATO air strikes during the Kosovo crisis. This active role demonstrated the continued importance of American military and diplomatic power in resolving European regional security crises.

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82. (A) 1, 3, and 4
The United States and the European Union share the world's largest trade relationship and have historically cooperated to strengthen the West. Within NATO, debates over defense spending and burden-sharing have been a recurring theme. Unlike these areas of cooperation and constructive debate, the US generally supported European integration as a means to create a stable and prosperous ally against the Soviet Union.

83. (C) Deindustrialization - Job shifts from Western Europe to lower-cost regions
Globalization has led to deindustrialization in parts of Western Europe as manufacturing jobs moved to regions with lower labor costs. This shift has transformed national economies, often leading to a greater focus on services and technology while creating economic challenges for traditional industrial hubs. This process is a clear example of how global economic integration reshapes the domestic labor markets and social structures of industrialized nations.

84. (A) 4, 3, 1, 2
The Great Depression in 1929 was followed decades later by the 1973 oil shock. In the twenty-first century, the 2008 global financial crisis preceded the Eurozone sovereign debt crisis, which began to escalate in late 2009. This chronological sequence highlights the recurring nature of economic crises and their profound impact on the political and social stability of the European continent across different eras.

85. (C) Shock Therapy
"Shock therapy" refers to the rapid transition of post-Soviet states from centrally planned economies to free-market capitalism during the

objective for regional stability and legitimacy. Simultaneously, by including human rights commitments, the accords provided a legal framework that empowered dissidents within the Soviet bloc. These human rights provisions eventually became a significant internal pressure point that contributed to the weakening of communist authority.

53. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Following the Cold War, NATO expanded eastward as former Eastern Bloc nations sought membership to guarantee their security and stabilize their democratic transitions. These states viewed NATO as a vital shield against potential future Russian aggression. This expansion was driven by the voluntary desire of these nations to integrate into the Western security architecture, rather than a lack of purpose for the alliance.

54. (B) Climate change-induced migration
Non-traditional or human security threats focus on challenges that affect individuals' well-being rather than just state borders. Climate change-induced migration is a prominent example, as environmental degradation forces populations to move, creating socio-economic and humanitarian challenges. Unlike conventional military invasions or naval blockades, these threats require multilateral cooperation and comprehensive policy responses that go beyond traditional military defense and border protection.

55. (D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Frontex manages external borders, while the Schengen Agreement allows for the abolition of internal checks. The Dublin Regulation establishes which state processes an asylum claim, usually the first country of entry. Europol facilitates law enforcement cooperation to combat organized crime. These mechanisms are central to the EU's internal security and its management of migration and borders across the diverse member states.

56. (A) The Syrian Civil War was a major catalyst for the large influx of refugees into Europe in 2015.
The 2015 refugee crisis was largely driven by the ongoing conflict in Syria, which forced millions to seek safety abroad. Many traveled through Turkey and the Mediterranean to reach Europe, straining the asylum systems of various EU states. This massive movement of people highlighted the humanitarian challenges of the conflict and the political difficulties within the EU regarding refugee distribution and border management.

57. (C) 1, 2, and 4
Post-Cold War Europe faced significant ethnic conflicts, notably during the violent breakup of Yugoslavia and the subsequent Bosnian War, which ended with the Dayton Agreement. Additionally, the presence of ethnic Russian minorities in the Baltic states remains a geopolitical friction point. Unlike these, the conflict in Northern Ireland was deeply rooted in ethno-nationalist and religious identity issues, rather than being a purely economic dispute.

58. (A) Kosovo - The Balkans
Kosovo is located in the Balkan Peninsula and has been the site of significant ethnic conflict between Serbian and Albanian populations. Nagorno-Karabakh is in the Caucasus, not the Iberian Peninsula, while Chechnya is also in the Caucasus rather than Scandinavia. The Basque region is in Western Europe, not the Caucasus. Correct geographical pairing is essential for understanding regional security and historical tensions.

59. (B) 1, 3, 2, 4
The Dayton Accords were signed in 1995, followed by the Good Friday Agreement in 1998. In the twenty-first century, the Syrian refugee crisis began impacting Europe significantly around 2011, with a peak in 2015. The Russian annexation of Crimea occurred in early 2014. This sequence reflects the progression from post-Cold War ethnic stabilization efforts to modern geopolitical and humanitarian crises in Eurasia.

60. (B) Rise of right-wing populist and anti-immigration parties
The large-scale arrival of refugees and migrants has significantly influenced European domestic politics, often fueling the rise of right-wing populist parties. these groups frequently campaign on anti-immigration platforms, emphasizing national identity and security concerns. This political shift has challenged traditional party systems and complicated the EU's ability to reach

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"Eurasianism," which highlights Russia's unique cultural position. "Sovereign Democracy" emphasizes maintaining a democratic system free from external Western interference.

94. (D) Defensive moves seen as offensive threats, prompting a response.
The security dilemma describes a situation where one state's efforts to increase its security are perceived as a threat by another state. NATO's eastward expansion was seen by the alliance as a defensive measure to stabilize new democracies. However, Russia interpreted this as an offensive encirclement, leading to a build-up of its own military forces and a more assertive foreign policy.

95. (A) Increasing the EU's reliance on imported fossil fuels
The European Green Deal aims to transform the EU into a modern, resource-efficient, and competitive economy by achieving climate neutrality by 2050. This involves reducing reliance on fossil fuels, increasing renewable energy use, and ensuring a just transition for all regions. Decoupling economic growth from resource consumption is a core goal, making increased dependence on imported fossil fuels contrary to its objectives.

96. (B) The normalization of relations between the Federal Republic of Germany (West) and Eastern Europe.
Ostpolitik was a diplomatic strategy initiated by Willy Brandt to normalize relations between West Germany and the Eastern Bloc countries, including the Soviet Union and East Germany. By pursuing "change through rapprochement," the policy aimed to reduce Cold War tensions and improve human contacts across the Iron Curtain. This approach represented a significant departure from previous West German policies of non-recognition.

97. (B) Colonial resources fueled industrialization and economic dominance.
European industrialization was significantly accelerated by the extraction of raw materials from overseas colonies. These resources provided the essential inputs for manufacturing, while the colonies themselves served as captive markets for finished products. This relationship reinforced European economic dominance and provided the capital necessary for further technological advancement and military expansion, creating a cycle of imperial growth and industrial development.

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98. (A) It was characterized by central planning and state ownership of the means of production.
The Soviet economic model relied on a system of central planning where the state controlled all means of production and determined what goods were produced. This approach prioritized heavy industry and military expansion over consumer needs. While it allowed for rapid early industrialization, the lack of market signals and incentives eventually led to chronic inefficiencies, technological stagnation, and widespread shortages by the 1980s.

99. (C) Reforms (Perestroika and Glasnost) unintentionally accelerated collapse.
Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms, Perestroika and Glasnost, were intended to modernize the Soviet system but instead unintentionally destabilized it. By allowing more political openness and limited economic freedom, these policies unleashed long-suppressed nationalist sentiments and public criticism of the regime. The central government lost control of the reform process, leading to the rapid disintegration of the union and the end of communist rule.

100. (D) Influencing actors through culture, values, and prosperity.
Soft power is the ability of an actor, like the European Union, to achieve its objectives through attraction rather than coercion. For the EU, this involves projecting its democratic values, cultural heritage, and economic success as an attractive model for others to follow. By using diplomacy, aid, and trade, the EU shapes the preferences of other states and promotes international stability.

101. (C) Treaty of Maastricht
The Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) was formally established as the second pillar of the European Union by the Maastricht Treaty in 1993. This allowed the EU to take more coordinated action on the international stage. While member states retain significant control over their own foreign policies, the CFSP provides

69. (C) Offering trade integration, finance, and association agreements
The EU utilizes economic interdependence as a stabilizing force in its neighborhood by offering association agreements and financial assistance. These tools encourage neighboring states to align their regulations and standards with the EU, creating deep economic ties that discourage conflict. By promoting prosperity and shared markets, the EU aims to create a "ring of friends" that enhances security through mutual economic benefit.

70. (B) The imposition of direct colonial rule over recipient nations
The European Union's approach to development cooperation is based on partnership and the promotion of sustainable development goals, not colonial rule. It provides financial aid and humanitarian assistance, often making aid conditional on democratic reforms and the respect for human rights. This modern framework seeks to empower developing nations and address the root causes of instability through cooperation rather than imperial dominance.

71. (D) Shape international relations through values and norms
Normative power describes the EU's ability to influence international relations by promoting its values, such as democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. Rather than relying solely on military or economic coercion, the EU shapes the global environment by setting standards and encouraging other actors to adopt similar norms. This "soft" power approach is a defining characteristic of the EU's international identity.

72. (A) Created vulnerability for EU states, complicating a unified response.
The deep reliance of many EU member states on Russian energy, particularly natural gas, created a significant strategic vulnerability. This interdependence made it difficult for the union to reach a swift and unified response to Russian political and military actions. It highlighted how economic ties, while intended to foster peace, can also be weaponized to exert pressure and limit an adversary's diplomatic options.

73. (C) The EU negotiates trade agreements as a single entity on behalf of all its member states.
Trade policy is an exclusive competence of the European Union, meaning the European Commission negotiates trade deals for all member states. Individual countries cannot sign their own bilateral free trade agreements. This unified approach gives the EU immense leverage in global trade negotiations. The EU generally supports the multilateral trading system and the World Trade Organization while seeking to expand its commercial reach.

74. (A) Aimed to rebuild economies to prevent communism and establish markets.
The Marshall Plan was a massive economic aid program designed to rebuild Western Europe's war-torn economies after World War II. By fostering prosperity and stability, the United States aimed to contain the spread of communism and create reliable trading partners. This initiative successfully revitalized European industry and laid the groundwork for the economic integration that would eventually lead to the European Union.

75. (D) The Transatlantic Alliance
The Transatlantic Alliance refers to the deep strategic, economic, and political bond between the United States and its European allies. This relationship, anchored by NATO and extensive trade ties, has been the cornerstone of Western security since World War II. While it faces periodic tensions over policy and burden-sharing, it remains a vital framework for addressing global challenges and maintaining international order.

76. (B) Providing aid to nations threatened by authoritarian forces.
The Truman Doctrine, announced in 1947, pledged American support for nations resisting attempted subjugation by "armed minorities" or "outside pressures." Initially focused on Greece and Turkey, it established the US commitment to containment and the defense of democratic institutions against communist expansion. This policy marked a definitive shift from traditional isolationism toward active global leadership and the support of allies.

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a unified consensus on migration policy and the distribution of asylum seekers.

61. (C) 1, 2, 3, and 4
Human security in Europe is threatened by terrorism, cyber-attacks on infrastructure, and a demographic crisis driven by an aging population. Additionally, energy dependency creates significant geopolitical vulnerabilities. While maritime challenges persist, human trafficking remains a critical and ongoing issue for the EU. These varied threats demonstrate that modern security involves protecting social, economic, and digital systems alongside traditional territorial integrity and defense.

62. (D) Protecting individuals from a wide range of threats
Human security shifts the focus of security policy from the state to the individual. It encompasses protection from various threats, including poverty, disease, environmental disaster, and violence. In European policy, this concept promotes a holistic approach that integrates development, human rights, and humanitarian aid. The goal is to ensure that individuals can live with dignity and freedom from fear and want.

63. (A) The Dublin System
The Dublin System requires that the first EU member state an asylum seeker enters is responsible for processing their claim. This puts a disproportionate burden on border countries like Italy and Greece, which receive large numbers of arrivals by sea. The system often leads to overwhelmed administrative capacities and highlights the lack of a shared, mandatory quota system for distributing refugees across the entire union.

64. (D) The economy was diversified and immune to oil fluctuations.
Prior to its collapse, the Soviet economy was heavily reliant on oil and gas exports, making it highly vulnerable to global price fluctuations. This lack of diversification, combined with central planning inefficiencies, led to severe stagnation. While Glasnost and nationalist movements were significant internal factors, the structural weakness of the energy-dependent economy was a fundamental cause of the state's eventual inability to sustain itself.

65. (B) Blending conventional force with cyber-attacks and disinformation.
Hybrid warfare involves the synchronized use of multiple instruments of power, including conventional military force, cyber-attacks, and disinformation campaigns. The goal is to exploit an adversary's vulnerabilities while remaining below the threshold of traditional open conflict. This approach complicates the target state's response and attribution, making it a significant contemporary security challenge for European nations and the wider international community.

66. (A) EU goal to act independently in security and defense.
Strategic autonomy refers to the European Union's objective of enhancing its capacity to act independently in security, defense, and industrial policy. This concept suggests that Europe should rely less on external powers, particularly the United States, for its security needs. It involves developing shared military capabilities and securing supply chains to ensure that the EU can protect its interests and values globally.

67. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The European Union is a global economic heavyweight, acting as the world's largest trading bloc and a primary provider of development aid. It leverages this economic influence to promote international standards, including human rights and environmental protection, through its trade agreements. This approach reflects the EU's strategy of using economic tools and cooperation to shape global norms and foster long-term international stability.

68. (D) Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) - Regulating the EU's space exploration
The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is focused on managing agricultural subsidies and ensuring food security within the EU, not on space exploration. Other initiatives like the Eastern Partnership and the European Neighbourhood Policy are designed to foster stability and cooperation with states in the EU's immediate vicinity. The Common Foreign and Security Policy represents the union's effort to develop a joint diplomatic approach.

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1990s. This process involved immediate price liberalization, large-scale privatization, and the removal of trade barriers. While intended to foster long-term growth, it often resulted in severe short-term economic hardship, hyperinflation, and social instability as societies struggled to adapt to the sudden change.

86. (B) 1, 3, and 4
Globalization integrated Russia into global energy markets and facilitated its 2012 WTO entry. It also enabled the rise of oligarchs who moved their wealth into Western systems. However, the 1998 Russian financial crisis was deeply connected to global trends, and the country did not abandon its nuclear arsenal. Instead, Russia maintained its nuclear status as a core component of its geopolitical power.

87. (D) Opposition to the policies and institutional power of the European Union.
Euroscepticism is the political position of criticizing or opposing the European Union and its integration process. It ranges from a desire for specific policy reforms to advocacy for a complete withdrawal from the union. This sentiment often gains strength during economic crises or when populations feel that supranational decisions are undermining national sovereignty, cultural identity, or local economic interests and autonomy.

88. (A) Vulnerabilities from shared currency without unified fiscal policy.
The Eurozone crisis demonstrated the risks of having a shared currency without a centralized fiscal authority to manage regional economic disparities. While member states share monetary policy through the European Central Bank, they maintain independent national budgets. This structural mismatch made it difficult to respond to the crisis effectively, forcing struggling nations to adopt painful austerity measures in exchange for international bailouts.

89. (C) It has resulted in a uniform, homogenous European culture with no regional variations.
Despite the influence of globalization, Europe has not become a culturally homogenous continent. National and regional traditions, languages, and identities remain strong and distinct across various member states. Globalization has facilitated multiculturalism and cosmopolitanism in urban centers, but it has also sparked nationalist backlashes from those who seek to preserve their specific local and national heritages from perceived global uniformity.

90. (A) Concerns over sovereignty, immigration, and economic marginalization.
The 2016 Brexit referendum was driven by a combination of concerns regarding national sovereignty, the scale of immigration, and a sense of economic marginalization among certain demographics. Many voters felt that EU regulations and the free movement of people were disadvantageous to the UK. This outcome reflects a broader populist reaction against globalization and the perceived overreach of supranational institutions in domestic affairs.

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91. (D) Free movement of people
The Schengen Area is designed to facilitate the free movement of people by abolishing internal border checks between participating European countries. This allows citizens and visitors to travel across borders as easily as moving between provinces within a single nation. It is a key pillar of European integration, promoting tourism, labor mobility, and a shared sense of European identity and connectivity.

92. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the vulnerabilities of relying on long, complex global supply chains for critical goods. In response, European leaders have increasingly championed "strategic autonomy," which includes reshoring essential industries and diversifying suppliers. This shift reflects a growing recognition that economic globalization must be balanced with national security and the need for resilient domestic production of vital resources and technology.

93. (C) Primakov Doctrine - Striving for a unipolar world dominated by Russia
The Primakov Doctrine advocated for a multipolar world where Russia serves as a key power to balance the influence of the United States, not for Russian unipolar dominance. Other central concepts include "Near Abroad," referring to Russia's perceived sphere of influence, and

the Western bloc and the Eastern bloc during the Cold War.

44. (B) The September 11 terrorist attacks in 2001
NATO's Article 5 was invoked for the first time in the alliance's history following the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001. This collective defense response demonstrated that the alliance could adapt to address non-traditional threats originating from non-state actors. It led to coordinated international efforts to combat terrorism and highlighted the enduring relevance of the transatlantic security commitment.

45. (C) Dismantling the Soviet nuclear arsenal
The Helsinki Accords focused on three main "baskets": security and border recognition, economic and environmental cooperation, and humanitarian rights. While these agreements aimed to reduce tensions, they did not include provisions for dismantling the Soviet nuclear arsenal. Nuclear disarmament was typically handled through separate bilateral treaties between the United States and the Soviet Union, such as SALT or INF.

46. (D) The right to intervene militarily in threatened communist states.
The Brezhnev Doctrine asserted that the Soviet Union had the right to intervene militarily in any Warsaw Pact country where communist rule was perceived to be under threat. This policy was used to justify the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia. It emphasized the limited sovereignty of Soviet satellite states and ensured that the Eastern Bloc remained ideologically and strategically aligned with Moscow.

47. (A) Détente
The Helsinki Accords were a significant milestone during the period of Détente, which was characterized by the easing of tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union. By formally recognizing existing borders and encouraging cooperation, the accords aimed to create a more stable and predictable European environment. This era sought to reduce the risk of nuclear conflict through diplomacy and dialogue.

48. (B) It was dissolved in 1991 following Soviet collapse.
The Warsaw Pact was a collective defense treaty among the Soviet Union and several Eastern European satellite states. It functioned as the military counterpart to COMECON and was designed to maintain Soviet control over Eastern Europe. Following the collapse of communist regimes and the Soviet Union, the alliance was officially dissolved in 1991, marking the end of the Cold War bipolarity.

49. (A) ECSC → EEC → EC → EU
The evolution of the European Union began with the European Coal and Steel Community in 1951, followed by the European Economic Community in 1957. These institutions merged into the European Communities, which eventually transformed into the European Union with the Maastricht Treaty in 1993. This progression reflects the gradual broadening of cooperation from specific economic sectors to a comprehensive political and economic union.

50. (A) A supranational and intergovernmental political and economic union
The European Union is a unique entity that combines both supranational and intergovernmental elements. In some areas, such as trade and competition, EU institutions have the power to make binding decisions for all members. In others, like foreign policy, member states cooperate through intergovernmental agreements. It is neither a simple economic forum nor a single sovereign state, but a complex multi-level governance system.

51. (C) Supremacy
The principle of supremacy, also known as primacy, dictates that EU law takes precedence over the national laws of member states in areas where the EU has jurisdiction. This ensures that EU policies are applied consistently across the entire union. It is a fundamental legal concept established by the European Court of Justice to prevent national legislation from undermining the integration process.

52. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The Helsinki Accords achieved two major, seemingly contradictory goals. They formalized post-war borders, satisfying a major Soviet

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a framework for joint diplomatic statements and crisis management operations.

102. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
Nationalism acted as a double-edged sword in nineteenth-century Europe, fostering the unification of nations like Germany while threatening the integrity of multi-ethnic empires. Simultaneously, the Industrial Revolution provided the technological tools, such as the telegraph and mass printing, that facilitated the rapid dissemination of nationalist ideas. These developments combined to transform the continent's political landscape and the nature of statehood.

103. (C) A is true but R is false.
The end of the Cold War created a unipolar moment where the United States emerged as the sole superpower, significantly influencing European security. However, European states did not immediately form a united military front to balance against the US. Instead, most remained integrated into NATO, though debates about creating an independent European defense capability have continued within the context of EU integration.

104. (A) "Brain drain" as skilled workers migrate to Western Europe
A significant negative consequence of globalization and EU integration for Eastern Europe has been the "brain drain." The free movement of labor allows skilled professionals and young workers to seek higher wages and better opportunities in Western Europe. While this benefits individual migrants and the destination countries, it can lead to labor shortages and hinder economic and social development in the home countries.

105. (C) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
The First Chechen War involved brutal urban combat in Grozny, while the Kosovo War saw a NATO bombing campaign without direct UN authorization. The 2008 Russo-Georgian War featured Russian support for separatist regions. Finally, the 2014 annexation of Crimea utilized "little green men" in a hybrid warfare strategy. these events highlight the diverse and evolving nature of regional conflicts in post-Cold War Eurasia.

106. (A) It was launched to physically replace national currencies in 2002.
The Euro was introduced as a virtual currency in 1999 and physically replaced national banknotes and coins in participating countries in 2002. Not all EU members are required to adopt it immediately, as some have negotiated opt-outs or do not yet meet the necessary economic criteria. The European Central Bank independently manages the Euro's monetary policy to ensure price stability.

107. (D) 1, 3, and 4
The Council of Europe is a separate human rights organization and is not part of the EU. Within the EU, the European Parliament is the only directly elected body, and the Commission serves as the executive. Although the European Court of Human Rights is frequently associated with Europe, it is an institution of the Council of Europe rather than the European Union.

108. (B) Benelux - Belgium, Netherlands, Switzerland
The Benelux is a regional intergovernmental cooperation between Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg, not Switzerland. Other groups include the Visegrad Group in Central Europe, the Nordic Council in Northern Europe, and the Baltic States. These regional groupings allow neighboring countries to cooperate on specific economic, political, and security interests within the broader framework of European and international relations.

109. (A) 1, 2, 3, 4
Economic integration typically follows a progression from a Free Trade Area to a Customs Union, which adds a common external tariff. A Common Market then allows for the free movement of factors of production. Finally, an Economic Union involves the harmonization of economic policies and often a shared currency. This model describes the gradual deepening of economic ties seen in the EU.

110. (D) Wandel durch Handel (Change through Trade)
"Wandel durch Handel" was a German foreign policy philosophy suggesting that deep economic engagement and interdependence with Russia would foster political liberalization and regional stability. This approach led to significant

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159. (A) 1, 3, 4, 2
The Berlin Airlift in 1948 was one of the first major crises of the Cold War. It was followed years later by the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, which had profound implications for global and European security. The Helsinki Accords were signed in 1975 during a period of relative détente. Finally, the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 symbolized the beginning of the Cold War's end.

160. (B) Border redrawings, ethnic cleansing, and advancing armies.
The massive displacement of people in Europe during and after World War II was primarily a result of the violence of the conflict and subsequent political changes. Advancing armies, systematic ethnic cleansing, and the forced redrawing of international borders uprooted millions. This humanitarian crisis led to large-scale refugee movements and population transfers as states sought to create more ethnically homogenous populations within their new territories.

161. (B) 1, 2, and 4
The European Union maintains complex strategic partnerships, including a significant trade-focused relationship with China and a major economic agreement with Japan. It also utilizes association agreements to stabilize neighboring regions. The EU remains engaged with the African Union and actively encourages foreign investment, reflecting its role as a global economic and diplomatic actor that seeks stability and growth through international cooperation and partnership.

162. (A) The period of easing geopolitical tensions between the Soviet Union and the West in the 1970s.
Détente refers to a period during the Cold War characterized by a deliberate attempt to ease tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union. This era saw increased diplomatic dialogue, the signing of arms control treaties, and the Helsinki Accords. The goal was to reduce the risk of nuclear war and establish a more stable, predictable relationship through negotiation rather than constant confrontation.

163. (C) Economic Nationalism / Neo-Mercantilism
This scenario describes economic nationalism, where a state uses protectionist measures like tariffs and state subsidies to foster domestic industrial development. This approach, often associated with nineteenth-century Germany and other rising powers, seeks to build national strength by reducing dependence on foreign goods and creating a robust industrial base. It prioritizes the state's economic and military power over the principles of free trade and global market integration.

164. (D) It allowed Germany to maintain an unlimited standing army to ensure continental balance.
The Treaty of Versailles explicitly restricted the size of Germany's military, limiting its army to 100,000 men and prohibiting it from possessing certain types of weaponry. This was intended to prevent Germany from ever becoming a dominant military power again. The treaty also imposed significant territorial losses and financial reparations, which fueled deep resentment and eventually contributed to the instability of the inter-war period.

165. (C) Protecting data privacy and regulating digital globalization.
The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) was implemented to provide individuals with greater control over their personal data and to harmonize data privacy laws across the EU. It reflects the EU's role as a regulatory superpower, setting high standards that impact global digital companies. By protecting privacy, the EU aims to ensure that digital globalization respects fundamental individual rights and democratic values in a connected world.

166. (B) Perestroika
Perestroika was the policy introduced by Mikhail Gorbachev to restructure the Soviet economy and political system. It aimed to overcome years of stagnation by introducing limited market-oriented reforms and increasing efficiency. This effort to modernize the Soviet state eventually opened the door to more significant changes that Gorbachev could no longer control, leading to the rapid transformation and eventual collapse of the communist system and the union itself.

167. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The Marshall Plan was initially offered to all European nations, but the Soviet Union blocked its satellite states from participating to prevent

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119. (D) Using exclusive economic zones and digital taxation policies.
Soft balancing involves using non-military tools, such as economic regulations, diplomatic alliances, and international law, to constrain a dominant power. For European states, this might include implementing digital taxation on American tech giants or using environmental standards to influence global trade. These actions allow nations to challenge hegemony and protect their interests without resorting to direct and potentially escalatory military confrontation.

120. (A) Free movement of defense technologies without export controls
The European Single Market is built on the "four freedoms": the free movement of goods, capital, services, and people. However, defense technologies and military equipment remain subject to significant national export controls and security regulations. Unlike consumer goods or financial services, the trade of sensitive military technology is heavily restricted to protect national security interests and fulfill international treaty obligations.

121. (C) Political and economic restructuring with limited market mechanisms.
Perestroika was a series of reforms introduced by Mikhail Gorbachev in the mid-1980s aimed at restructuring the Soviet political and economic systems. It introduced limited market mechanisms and decentralized decision-making to improve efficiency and encourage innovation. While intended to revitalize the Soviet Union, these reforms eventually contributed to the destabilization of the central government and the collapse of the communist state.

122. (A) Unemployment, hyperinflation, and the rise of right-wing extremists.
The 1929 stock market crash triggered a global economic depression that had catastrophic effects in Europe, particularly in Germany. Massive unemployment and financial instability undermined public faith in the Weimar Republic's democratic institutions. This economic desperation provided fertile ground for the rise of radical right-wing extremist parties, like the Nazis, who promised to restore order and prosperity through authoritarian rule.

123. (D) It enabled mass production and total war capabilities.
The Industrial Revolution transformed warfare by enabling the mass production of standardized weapons, ammunition, and equipment. Technological advancements like the railway and steamship allowed for the rapid mobilization and sustainment of massive armies. These capabilities led to the era of "total war," where entire societies and economies were mobilized to support the war effort, significantly increasing the scale and destruction of conflicts.

124. (B) They legitimized borders while empowering regional human rights groups.
The Helsinki Accords played a complex role in the Cold War by formally recognizing post-World War II borders, which provided a sense of stability. Simultaneously, the human rights commitments included in the agreement empowered dissident groups within the Eastern Bloc. These activists used the accords to pressure their governments for greater freedom, eventually contributing to the internal weakening of communist regimes.

125. (C) The Bipolar system
The Cold War era was characterized by a bipolar international system dominated by two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union. Europe was physically and ideologically divided into two opposing blocs, each centered around one of these superpowers and their respective military alliances, NATO and the Warsaw Pact. This structure shaped nearly every aspect of international relations, security, and economics until 1989.

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126. (D) Restoring the balance of power after the Napoleonic Wars.
The primary goal of the Congress of Vienna was to establish a long-term peace plan for Europe by restoring the balance of power after the upheaval of the Napoleonic Wars. The major powers sought to prevent any single nation from dominating the continent again and to restore traditional monarchies. This diplomatic effort created a period of relative stability known as the Concert of Europe.

127. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The Nazi regime used the concept of "Lebensraum" to justify territorial expansion into Eastern Europe to provide "living space" for the German people. Meanwhile, the League of Nations was unsuccessful in preventing the remilitarization of the Rhineland in 1936. This failure highlighted the League's inability to enforce international treaties and deter aggressive actions by states determined to challenge the post-war order.

128. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The United Kingdom's historical policy of offshore balancing was driven by its geographic position as an island nation. By intervening to prevent any single power from dominating continental Europe, the UK protected its maritime supremacy and national security. This strategy allowed the British to maintain a global empire while ensuring that no continental rival could amass enough power to threaten the British Isles.

129. (B) Switzerland
Switzerland is a notable exception in Western Europe, as it maintained a strict policy of neutrality throughout the Cold War and did not join NATO. Other nations like France, Italy, and West Germany were core members of the alliance. Switzerland's neutrality is a long-standing tradition aimed at ensuring its independence and avoiding involvement in international conflicts while serving as a diplomatic mediator.

130. (A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
Neofunctionalism emphasizes "spillover," where integration in one sector drives cooperation in others. Subsidiarity ensures decisions are made at the lowest appropriate level, while the "Acquis Communautaire" represents the full body of EU law. "Opt-outs" allow specific members to bypass certain policies. These concepts are essential for understanding the dynamic and multi-layered process of European integration and its institutional governance.

131. (C) It created a demand for raw materials and captive markets, accelerating imperial expansion.
Industrialization in Europe fueled a new wave of imperialism as nations sought secure sources of raw materials and exclusive markets for their manufactured goods. The technological edge provided by the Industrial Revolution, including advanced weaponry and transportation, made it possible for European powers to conquer and administer vast territories. This expansion was driven by the economic needs of industrialized capitalist societies.

132. (D) 1, 2, and 3
The Arctic region is becoming a new geopolitical frontier due to melting sea ice, which is opening trade routes and revealing significant natural resource reserves. Russia is actively militarizing its Arctic coast to protect its interests. Contrary to having no interest, the European Union is increasingly focused on the region's environmental and strategic developments, as the Arctic's transformation affects global security and trade.

133. (C) Axis Powers - Germany, Italy, Soviet Union
The Axis Powers in World War II primarily consisted of Germany, Italy, and Japan. The Soviet Union, although initially signing a non-aggression pact with Germany, eventually joined the Allied Powers after being invaded in 1941. Other historical alliances like the Triple Entente and Triple Alliance defined the pre-World War I era, while the Holy Alliance was a nineteenth-century conservative coalition.

134. (B) It decreases the likelihood because the costs of disrupting deep economic and institutional ties are too high.
Complex interdependence suggests that deep economic and institutional ties between states make armed conflict highly unlikely. Within the EU, the extensive integration of markets, supply chains, and legal systems means that a war would be economically devastating for all parties involved. These shared interests and frequent interactions through supranational institutions provide strong incentives for peaceful dispute resolution and continuous diplomatic cooperation.

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135. (D) Diversity and weak authority cause regions to fracture into smaller, hostile states.
Balkanization is a cause-effect relationship where the collapse of central authority in a diverse region leads to fragmentation into smaller, often antagonistic states. This process is typically driven by ethnic or nationalist tensions that were previously suppressed. The resulting instability often creates long-term security challenges, as the newly formed units may continue to experience internal strife and regional border disputes.

136. (A) 1, 3, and 4
Following the Cold War, the US supported NATO's eastward expansion and maintained missile defense systems in the region, which strained relations with Russia. While overall troop levels were reduced from Cold War peaks, the US remained a central figure in European security. The US did not oppose German reunification or withdraw from NATO, but rather reinforced the alliance's role in a new era.

137. (C) Policy of maximal openness in all Soviet government activities.
Glasnost was a policy introduced by Mikhail Gorbachev in the 1980s that promoted greater transparency and openness in the Soviet government. It encouraged citizens to discuss social and political issues more freely and allowed for greater media freedom. While intended to foster trust and identify systemic problems, Glasnost also permitted the open expression of grievances and nationalist sentiments that eventually weakened the regime.

138. (A) Belarus
The described scenario of pro-democracy protests following a controversial election, followed by state repression and Russian support, accurately reflects the recent political situation in Belarus. These events have led to significant Western sanctions and a surge in political migration to neighboring EU states. This situation highlights the ongoing struggle between authoritarian stability backed by Russia and democratic movements seeking closer ties with Europe.

139. (D) Universal suffrage was fully implemented in all European states immediately upon their formation in the 19th century.
While the nineteenth century saw the development of the modern nation-state and the centralization of power, universal suffrage was not implemented immediately. Most states initially restricted voting rights based on property, gender, or social status. The transition to full universal suffrage was a gradual process that occurred over many decades, often as a result of prolonged social and political struggle and reform.

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140. (B) Pooling resources to make war between France and Germany impossible.
The European Coal and Steel Community was created with the primary goal of integrating the heavy industries of France and West Germany. By pooling these essential resources for warfare, the founding members aimed to make another war between the two nations "not merely unthinkable, but materially impossible." This functionalist approach to integration laid the foundation for decades of peaceful cooperation and development.

141. (C) Eastern Europe
Following World War II, the Soviet Union established a "buffer zone" of satellite states in Eastern Europe to protect its western frontier from potential future invasions. These nations were brought under Soviet political and military control, forming the Eastern Bloc. This geographic strategy was central to Soviet security thinking, as it provided a vast territorial layer between the USSR and the capitalist Western powers.

142. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The Treaty of Rome, signed in 1957, established the European Economic Community (EEC) to create a common market among its members. However, it did not immediately establish a single currency. The path to the Euro was a much longer process that involved decades of further economic integration and was eventually formalized by the Maastricht Treaty in the early 1990s.

reliance on Russian natural gas. However, recent geopolitical conflicts have prompted a major reassessment of this strategy, as economic ties failed to prevent aggression and instead created strategic vulnerabilities for Germany and Europe.

111. (A) 1, 3, 4, and 5
The Warsaw Pact was formed in response to West Germany joining NATO and established a unified military command under Soviet leadership. It was utilized to enforce ideological conformity, such as during the 1968 intervention in Czechoslovakia. While standardizing equipment was a goal, Yugoslavia was never a member, and Albania withdrew early, highlighting that the pact was primarily a tool for Soviet-aligned states.

112. (B) Post-WWII political and military barriers erected by the USSR.
The "Iron Curtain" was a metaphorical term coined by Winston Churchill to describe the ideological and physical divide between Western Europe and the Soviet-controlled Eastern Bloc after World War II. It symbolized the lack of freedom and the isolation of Eastern European nations behind a series of fortified borders and political restrictions. This division lasted until the fall of communist regimes in 1989.

113. (B) Ukraine
This scenario mirrors the events in Ukraine, where the pursuit of an Association Agreement with the European Union sparked internal political crises. Russia, fearing the loss of its sphere of influence, intervened by supporting separatist movements and eventually annexing Crimea. This conflict illustrates the intense geopolitical competition between Western integration and Russian interests in the post-Soviet space, leading to prolonged regional instability.

114. (A) The EU has completely eliminated human smuggling across the Mediterranean Sea.
Despite extensive efforts and the presence of Frontex, the European Union has not eliminated human smuggling across the Mediterranean. This remains a significant humanitarian and security challenge, with thousands making perilous journeys annually. While the Schengen Agreement eased internal travel, it also necessitated stricter external border controls, creating the "Fortress Europe" dynamic where aging populations still face a structural need for labor.

115. (C) The ideological vacuum left by communism was filled by ethnic identities.
The collapse of communist regimes created a significant ideological and political vacuum in Eastern Europe and the Balkans. In the absence of a unifying socialist identity, many people turned to long-suppressed ethnic and national identities to find meaning and community. This resurgence of ethno-nationalism often led to political fragmentation and, in some regions, violent conflict as different groups competed for territory and power.

116. (D) Isolationism
The Truman Doctrine marked a fundamental shift in United States foreign policy away from its traditional stance of isolationism. By committing to support nations threatened by authoritarianism, the US took on a global leadership role that it maintained throughout the Cold War. this proactive approach sought to prevent the spread of hostile ideologies and ensure a global environment favorable to American interests and values.

117. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) was established to ensure food security and support farmers in post-war Europe. Contrary to being insignificant, it continues to represent a substantial portion of the overall European Union budget, though its share has decreased over time. The policy remains a central and often debated component of EU integration, reflecting the ongoing importance of agriculture to the union.

118. (B) Charles de Gaulle - Atlanticism
Charles de Gaulle was known for his skepticism of Atlanticism and his pursuit of a more independent French foreign policy, famously withdrawing France from NATO's integrated military command. In contrast, figures like Bismarck utilized Realpolitik to unify Germany, and Gorbachev introduced Glasnost to reform the Soviet Union. Putin's concept of Sovereign Democracy emphasizes a Russia-centric political model free from perceived Western interference.

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151. (D) Moldova
Moldova is the post-Soviet state where the region of Transnistria remains a "frozen conflict" zone. Following a brief war in the early 1990s, Transnistria declared independence, which is not internationally recognized. The presence of Russian troops in the region continues to hinder Moldova's sovereignty and its efforts toward European integration, serving as a persistent source of regional tension and geopolitical instability.

152. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The "Color Revolutions" were pro-democracy movements that sought to end corruption and promote democratic reforms in several post-Soviet states. While participants saw these as indigenous efforts for better governance, Russia interpreted them as Western-orchestrated campaigns to install pro-Western regimes and encircle the Russian Federation. This divergence in perspective remains a fundamental source of tension between Russia and the West in the shared neighborhood.

153. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Formulating a unified foreign policy remains a significant challenge for the European Union because national interests often diverge. Since foreign policy is a core aspect of state sovereignty, member states are often reluctant to fully cede this authority to supranational institutions. This results in a system where the EU can act decisively on some issues but remains fragmented on others where national priorities conflict.

154. (A) Subsidized food dumping on global markets, harming developing nations.
A common criticism of the Common Agricultural Policy is that it leads to overproduction within the EU. To manage this surplus, the EU has historically subsidized the export of food to global markets at prices below production costs. This practice, known as dumping, can undercut farmers in developing countries, making it difficult for them to compete and hindering their local agricultural development and economic stability.

155. (D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Neofunctionalism focuses on sector-led spillover, while intergovernmentalism views states as the primary decision-makers. Constructivism emphasizes the power of shared identity and norms in shaping behavior. Realism, meanwhile, sees international organizations like the EU as tools for states to maximize their own relative power and security. These competing theories offer different explanations for the motivations and outcomes of the European integration process.

156. (B) It led to the rise of the industrial bourgeoisie and an urban working class (proletariat).
The Industrial Revolution fundamentally transformed European social structures by creating two prominent new classes. The industrial bourgeoisie, who owned the factories and means of production, gained significant economic and political influence. Simultaneously, a large urban working class, or proletariat, emerged in growing industrial cities. The tensions between these groups shaped much of the political and social history of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

157. (C) 1, 2, and 4
The dissolution of the Soviet Union was accelerated by the failed 1991 coup and finalized by the Belovezha Accords, leading to fifteen independent republics. Contrary to being a smooth transition, the shift to capitalism was marked by severe economic hardship, hyperinflation, and social unrest. This period represented one of the most significant geopolitical transformations of the late twentieth century, ending decades of bipolar global competition.

158. (D) The 1956 Uprising - Hungary
The 1956 Uprising was a major spontaneous revolt against the Soviet-backed government of Hungary. It was eventually suppressed by a massive Soviet military intervention, demonstrating the USSR's determination to maintain control over its Eastern Bloc satellites. Other events like the Prague Spring occurred in Czechoslovakia, and the Solidarity movement was centered in Poland, each representing different challenges to Soviet authority during the Cold War.

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143. (A) Schengen Agreement - Trade Tariffs
The Schengen Agreement is focused on the abolition of internal border checks and the free movement of people, not on trade tariffs. Trade tariffs are typically managed through the EU's Customs Union and the World Trade Organization. Other agreements like the Kyoto Protocol address climate change, while the Dublin Regulation manages asylum claims, and the Maastricht Treaty was fundamental in creating the European Union.

144. (B) It expanded and adapted to address new threats and maintain US hegemony.
Neorealism suggests that alliances often persist if they continue to serve the strategic interests of dominant powers. After the Soviet Union's collapse, NATO expanded its membership and adapted its mission to include crisis management and counter-terrorism. This allowed the United States to maintain its influence in Europe and address new security challenges, ensuring the alliance's survival even in the absence of its original threat.

145. (B) The immediate decolonization of all European overseas territories in 1945
The post-World War II period in Europe was defined by the division of Germany, the creation of spheres of influence, and a reliance on nuclear deterrence. However, decolonization was not immediate in 1945. Most European powers initially attempted to maintain their overseas empires, and the process of decolonization was a gradual and often violent struggle that unfolded over the following several decades.

146. (A) Armed conflict between actors with highly unequal military capabilities.
Asymmetrical warfare occurs when two opposing forces have significantly different levels of military power, technology, and resources. In such conflicts, the weaker party often utilizes unconventional tactics, such as guerrilla warfare, insurgency, or cyber-attacks, to negate the stronger party's advantages. This type of warfare is a major security concern for European states, as they often face non-state actors or hybrid threats that do not follow traditional rules.

147. (C) Resurgent focus on NATO's territorial defense and deterrence.
The 2014 annexation of Crimea by Russia prompted a major shift in European security policy, reviving a strong focus on NATO's collective defense and territorial deterrence. This event ended the post-Cold War assumption of long-term stability and led to increased military spending and the deployment of multinational battlegroups to NATO's eastern flank. It underscored the renewed importance of protecting territorial integrity against external aggression.

148. (D) Russian-backed Pan-Slavism challenged Austro-Hungarian integrity.
Prior to World War I, the ideology of Pan-Slavism, which was supported by Russia, encouraged Slavic peoples in the Balkans to seek independence from the Austro-Hungarian Empire. this nationalist movement posed a direct threat to the empire's territorial integrity and contributed to the regional instability that eventually sparked the war. Russian support for its "Slavic brothers" was a key factor in the complex web of European tensions.

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149. (C) Aging populations strain pension systems and necessitate labor migration discussions.
Europe's demographic landscape is characterized by a rapidly aging population and declining birth rates. This trend places significant strain on national pension and healthcare systems as the proportion of retirees grows relative to the working-age population. These challenges necessitate difficult political and economic discussions regarding pension reform, labor market productivity, and the potential role of migration in addressing future labor shortages.

150. (B) Prompted anxieties about US commitments and debates on autonomy.
The United States' "Pivot to Asia" signaled a shift in American strategic priorities away from Europe and toward the Indo-Pacific. This move created anxieties among European allies regarding the long-term US commitment to their security. It also sparked renewed debates within the EU about the need for "strategic autonomy" and the development of more independent European defense and foreign policy capabilities.

Western influence. In response, the USSR created COMECON to coordinate the economies of the Eastern Bloc and ensure they remained integrated with the Soviet system. These competing economic frameworks reinforced the bipolar division of Europe and solidified the ideological gap between the East and West.

168. (A) Nabucco Pipeline - Terminated project that failed to end gas dependency.
The Nabucco Pipeline was a proposed project intended to reduce European dependence on Russian gas by bringing supplies from the Caspian region, but it was eventually cancelled. Other projects like Nord Stream and TurkStream were designed to export Russian gas directly to Europe. The Southern Gas Corridor remains a key EU initiative to diversify its energy sources and enhance its energy security in a volatile geopolitical environment.

169. (C) The absence of war between EU member states since the end of WWII
Democratic Peace Theory posits that democratic nations are highly unlikely to go to war with one another. The history of the European Union supports this idea, as its member states have maintained peace among themselves for over seven decades. By fostering democratic governance and deep institutional integration, the EU has created a framework where conflict is replaced by cooperation and the peaceful resolution of disputes.

170. (A) A completely nomadic population with no fixed settlements
A traditional nation-state is characterized by defined territorial borders, a centralized government, and a shared national identity. A completely nomadic population lacks the permanent territorial basis that is fundamental to the modern concept of the state as it developed in nineteenth-century Europe. The state-building process focused on fixed boundaries and the administrative control of a settled population within a specific geographic area and legal framework.

171. (D) Power balance system adopted to resolve disputes.
The Concert of Europe was a system of dispute resolution used by major European powers in the nineteenth century to maintain a balance of power and avoid large-scale war. It relied on frequent congresses and diplomatic cooperation to address regional crises and revolutionary threats. This informal arrangement provided a period of relative peace and helped stabilize the continent following the upheaval of the Napoleonic Wars.

172. (B) A surge in popular support for radical anti-democratic parties like the NSDAP (Nazis).
The economic failures of the Weimar Republic, including hyperinflation and the impact of the Great Depression, severely undermined public support for democratic governance. As living standards collapsed and unemployment skyrocketed, many Germans turned to radical parties like the Nazis, who promised stability and national strength. This political polarization led to the erosion of democratic norms and eventually the establishment of a totalitarian regime under Hitler.

173. (C) The Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) is traditionally a US military officer.
Within the NATO alliance, the role of Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) is traditionally held by a high-ranking United States military officer. This reflects the central role and significant military contribution of the US to European defense. While the Secretary General is typically a European statesman, the American leadership of the military command underscores the enduring transatlantic security partnership and the US commitment to collective defense.

174. (D) Capital mobility and competition pressured welfare states to reform.
Globalization, characterized by increased capital mobility and international competition, has placed significant pressure on European social democracies. To remain competitive and attract investment, many states have had to reform their tax systems and welfare programs. This process has led to debates about how to maintain high levels of social protection while adapting to the demands of a globalized economy and changing labor market dynamics.

175. (A) Fascism
Fascism was the ideology that fueled aggressive nationalism and territorial expansion in Italy

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and Germany during the inter-war period. It emphasized the absolute power of the state, the glorification of military strength, and the rejection of liberal democracy and international cooperation. This radical movement gained support by promising to restore national pride and order after the perceived humiliations and economic failures of the post-World War I era.

176. (B) Treaty of Versailles
The Treaty of Versailles was the primary peace treaty that ended World War I. It imposed significant territorial, military, and financial penalties on Germany and led to the creation of the League of Nations. While intended to ensure lasting peace, its harsh terms and the subsequent economic instability it caused are often cited as contributing factors to the rise of future tensions and the outbreak of the second world war.

177. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
After the Cold War, the European Union successfully expanded to include many former communist states from the Eastern Bloc. However, Russian foreign policy, particularly under Vladimir Putin, has increasingly viewed this expansion as a threat to its influence and security. Far from welcoming it, Russia has often responded with strategic opposition, viewing the integration of its neighbors into Western institutions as an offensive encirclement.

178. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Migration has become a highly securitized issue in Europe, as it is increasingly framed as a threat to national identity and public safety rather than just a humanitarian or economic matter. Right-wing populist parties have played a key role in this process, using anti-immigration rhetoric to gain political support. This framing has led to more restrictive border policies and has complicated the EU's ability to manage migration.

179. (C) The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)
The OSCE is a separate international organization and is not an institution of the European Union. In contrast, the European Central Bank, the European Court of Justice, and the European Council are all core EU bodies that manage various aspects of its monetary, legal, and political governance. The OSCE focuses more broadly on security, arms control, and human rights across a wider membership that includes the US and Russia.

180. (D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Estonia is a member of both NATO and the EU, while Belarus is deeply integrated with Russia through the Union State. Ukraine remains a central site of geopolitical conflict over its Western versus Russian orientation. Kazakhstan acts as a major Central Asian power, balancing relations between multiple global actors. These diverse orientations highlight the complex and varied political landscape of the post-Soviet space and its neighbors.

181. (C) International intervention, including NATO strikes, was used to stop cleansing.
The ethnic conflicts in the Balkans during the 1990s involved horrific violence and ethnic cleansing, which local and UN efforts initially failed to stop. Decisive international intervention, including NATO air strikes and the negotiation of the Dayton Accords, was ultimately required to end the fighting. These events demonstrated the challenges of regional peacekeeping and the potential need for military force to protect civilians and restore stability.

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182. (B) 1, 2, and 3
The United States has long-standing strategic interests in Europe, including preventing a single hostile power from dominating the continent and maintaining a strong economic partnership. It also seeks European cooperation on global issues like counter-terrorism. Contrary to wanting its dissolution, the US has generally supported European integration as a means to create a stable, prosperous, and democratic ally that shares American values and interests.

183. (D) "Glocalization" - McDonald's adapting its menu to fit local European tastes
Glocalization describes the process where global products or services are adapted to fit the specific cultural and local tastes of different regions. McDonald's offering different menu items in various European countries is a classic example of this trend. It highlights how globalization does not always result in pure cultural homogenization

but can involve a complex interaction between global trends and local identities and preferences.

184. (A) 2, 1, 4, 3
Russia's assertive foreign policy in the twenty-first century began with the 2008 Russo-Georgian War. This was followed by the annexation of Crimea in 2014 and the Russian intervention in the Syrian Civil War starting in 2015. Finally, the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022 marked a significant escalation. This sequence illustrates Russia's increasing willingness to use military force to achieve its geopolitical objectives and influence.

185. (C) Relegated Eastern Europe to a peripheral status supplying resources.
Dependency theory suggests that integration into the global economy can lead to a relationship where some regions become dependent on more powerful core economies. In the context of Eastern Europe, critics argue that the region has often served as a source of cheap labor and raw materials for Western European companies. This perspective highlights the potential for unequal economic development and the persistence of regional disparities within a globalized system.

186. (A) 1, 2, and 4
The European Union responds to globalization by acting as a regulatory superpower, setting high standards for digital and environmental policy. It leverages its large internal market to negotiate favorable trade deals and has created a digital single market to compete globally. These efforts demonstrate the EU's strategy of using its economic weight and regulatory capacity to shape the global environment and protect its interests.

187. (D) The use of economic instruments, such as energy supply and sanctions, to achieve geopolitical objectives.
Geoeconomics involves the strategic use of economic power to achieve geopolitical goals. In the relationship between Europe and Russia, this is seen in the use of energy supplies as a tool of influence and the implementation of economic sanctions as a response to political and military actions. It reflects a world where economic interdependence is increasingly weaponized to exert pressure and shape international political outcomes.

188. (B) A populist backlash against globalization
This scenario illustrates a populist backlash, where economic hardship leads to a surge in nationalism and opposition to international organizations. In many European countries, this has manifested as a desire to regain national sovereignty and restrict immigration, which are perceived as negative consequences of global and regional integration. Such movements challenge the established political order and the trend toward deeper institutional and economic cooperation.

189. (C) The EU's security strategy solely focuses on traditional military buildup.
The European Union's security strategy is comprehensive and does not focus solely on traditional military power. It increasingly incorporates human security concerns, recognizing that threats like climate change and pandemic diseases can destabilize societies. This holistic approach integrates development, human rights, and diplomacy alongside traditional defense, reflecting the understanding that modern security requires addressing a wide range of interconnected challenges to individual and collective well-being.

190. (D) Countering West German NATO entry and securing Soviet regional control.
The Warsaw Pact was established in 1955 primarily as a direct response to West Germany joining NATO. The Soviet Union sought to create a formal military alliance to counter the Western bloc and to legitimize its ongoing presence and control over Eastern Europe. This pact solidified the division of Europe into two competing military camps and served as a key mechanism for maintaining Soviet ideological hegemony.

191. (A) George F. Kennan
George F. Kennan, a US diplomat in Moscow, authored the "Long Telegram" in 1946, which provided a foundational analysis of Soviet behavior. He argued that the USSR was inherently expansionist and that the United States must adopt a policy of "containment" to prevent the spread of communist influence. His ideas were

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240. (B) Seeking a security guarantee against Russian revanchism.
For many Eastern European states, the primary motivation for joining NATO after the Cold War was to obtain a firm security guarantee against potential future Russian aggression. Having experienced decades of Soviet dominance, these nations sought the collective defense provided by the alliance to ensure their newly regained independence and security. This move was seen as essential for creating a stable environment for their democratic and economic development.

241. (B) The fall of the Berlin Wall
The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 is the most powerful symbolic event representing the end of the Cold War and the ideological division of Europe. It marked the collapse of the "Iron Curtain" and led to the rapid reunification of Germany and the end of communist rule across Eastern Europe. This transformative moment opened the way for a new era of European integration and the expansion of democratic governance.

242. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The Truman Doctrine established the US policy of providing aid to nations resisting authoritarian threats. Meanwhile, the Marshall Plan was a comprehensive economic recovery program, not a military alliance. It provided billions of dollars in aid to rebuild Western Europe's infrastructure and industry, fostering the prosperity and stability needed to prevent the spread of communism and laying the groundwork for future European economic and political integration.

243. (C) A is true but R is false.
The European Union is widely regarded as a "normative power" because of its ability to influence global standards and behavior through its values and regulations. However, it does not possess a massive unified standing army to enforce these directives. Instead, the EU relies on its economic weight, diplomatic engagement, and the attractiveness of its democratic model to shape international relations and promote the rule of law globally.

244. (D) Complexity in tracking crime networks across internal borders.
While the Schengen Agreement facilitates travel and trade by removing internal border checks, it also presents challenges for law enforcement in tracking criminal and terrorist networks that can move freely between countries. To address this, the EU has had to significantly increase cooperation through systems like the Schengen Information System and agencies like Europol. This highlights the ongoing need to balance the benefits of open borders with internal security.

245. (C) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
The Warsaw Pact was formed in 1955, followed by the EEC in 1957. The Helsinki Accords were signed in 1975, and the Soviet Union eventually collapsed in 1991. This timeline covers the height of the Cold War, the attempts at détente, and the final dissolution of the bipolar international system. each event was a critical turning point that shaped the security and political architecture of the European continent.

246. (B) Secret, rigid alliances pulled the continent into minor conflicts.
Before World War I, Europe was entangled in a web of secret and rigid alliances that meant a minor regional conflict could quickly escalate into a general European war. These agreements created a situation where nations were automatically drawn into disputes involving their allies, leaving little room for diplomatic flexibility. This rigid system was a primary factor in the rapid escalation following the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand.

247. (D) 1 and 3
European strategic autonomy aims to enhance the EU's ability to act independently in defense matters through initiatives like the European Defence Fund. This concept has been championed by leaders like Emmanuel Macron. It does not require the dissolution of NATO, but rather seeks to strengthen Europe's own capabilities so it can be a more capable and independent partner within the transatlantic alliance and in global security affairs.

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corridor is therefore a primary concern for NATO's regional defense planning.

200. (A) Blend of statism, conservatism, and protection of regional ethnic Russians.
Under Vladimir Putin, Russian nationalism has evolved into a mix of strong state authority, traditional social values, and a commitment to protecting the interests of ethnic Russians in the "near abroad." This ideology emphasizes Russia's status as a unique civilization and a great power that must resist Western influence. It has been used to justify assertive foreign policies and to consolidate domestic political support.

201. (C) Treaty of Maastricht
The Maastricht Treaty, which entered into force in 1993, formally created the European Union by bringing together the existing European Communities under a new three-pillar structure. It established the Euro, introduced the concept of EU citizenship, and expanded cooperation to include common foreign policy and internal security. This treaty marked a significant leap forward in the process of European political and economic integration.

202. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
"Third Way" politics in the 1990s sought to modernize social democracy by incorporating market-oriented economic policies. Contrary to having no impact, the Industrial Revolution was actually the primary driver for the emergence of socialist movements in Europe, as the working class organized to demand better conditions and political representation in response to industrial changes. These movements fundamentally reshaped the political landscape of the continent.

203. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalization has eroded traditional state sovereignty as international markets and organizations increasingly influence national policies. In Europe, this is particularly evident as member states must align their domestic regulations with EU directives and global economic trends. This shift toward multi-level governance means that states no longer have absolute control over their internal affairs, as they must navigate a complex web of global interdependencies.

204. (B) The strengthening of the League of Nations
The Great Depression significantly weakened the League of Nations as member states turned inward to address their own domestic economic crises. The resulting instability and rise of extremist regimes made international cooperation and collective security much more difficult to maintain. Rather than being strengthened, the League's inability to resolve the subsequent geopolitical tensions demonstrated its fundamental weaknesses and led to its eventual failure and replacement.

205. (C) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
Jean Monnet was a founding father of European integration, while Winston Churchill famously identified the "Iron Curtain." Konrad Adenauer led West Germany's integration into the Western alliance, and Charles de Gaulle pursued an independent French nuclear capability. These leaders were central to shaping the post-war European order, balancing the needs for national recovery with the pursuit of regional stability and strategic influence.

206. (D) It integrates human rights, development, and conflict prevention.
The European Union's application of human security involves a holistic approach that links human rights, economic development, and the prevention of conflict. It prioritizes the protection of individuals from a wide range of threats, from violence to poverty. This strategy reflects the EU's belief that long-term security is best achieved by addressing the underlying social and economic causes of instability and humanitarian crises.

207. (A) 1 and 3
The European Union's Common Security and Defence Policy enables it to conduct peacekeeping missions, while the Helsinki Final Act recognized the inviolability of post-war borders. NATO is fundamentally a military alliance, not just an economic union, and the Warsaw Pact was led by the Soviet Union, not the United States. These institutions and agreements define the complex layers of security and cooperation in Europe.

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allowed newly formed governments to oversee large-scale production and manage the complex logistics inherent in a rapidly modernizing, technologically advancing, and increasingly industrial society.

257. (D) To unite fragmented populations into nation-states
During the period of intense political transformation, a shared sense of identity was used to bring together diverse and disconnected groups. This ideological movement allowed for the creation of cohesive national units from previously separated communities. By fostering a collective consciousness, it provided the necessary social foundation for building strong, unified states capable of supporting modern industrial growth.

258. (A) Industrialization funding states and nationalism ensuring loyalty
The expansion of state authority was built on two interconnected foundations that supported each other. Economic growth from industrial activities provided the necessary financial resources to build government institutions and infrastructure. At the same time, a sense of national identity ensured that the population remained committed to the state, providing the political stability needed for long-term development and power.

259. (C) Industrial output and nationalist fervor
The transformation of European political landscapes was driven by a combination of material wealth and ideological passion. Gains in production from modern factories provided the resources for state expansion, while strong nationalistic sentiments united the people. This combination allowed for a profound restructuring of society, where economic capabilities and cultural identity worked together to create powerful and integrated systems.

260. (A) Manage complex demands and forge a national consciousness
The combination of economic modernization and shared identity provided governments with the tools needed to lead in a changing world. This synergy allowed states to address the complicated logistical and social requirements of an industrial society. Simultaneously, it helped create a unified public mindset, ensuring that citizens felt a deep connection to the newly built state and its goals.

261. (D) Profound systemic instability and structural vulnerability
The period between the two global conflicts was defined by deep-seated fragility within the European political and economic structures. Despite attempts to rebuild, the continent remained susceptible to collapse due to unresolved tensions. This atmosphere of uncertainty and weakness prevented the establishment of a lasting peace, leaving states open to further disruption, regional rivalries, and eventual systemic failure.

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262. (B) Systemic fragility
Efforts to restore economic health and establish lasting security after the first global conflict were hampered by deep-seated structural weaknesses. These underlying vulnerabilities made it difficult for institutions to maintain stability in the face of rising pressures. Consequently, the lack of a resilient foundation meant that even well-intentioned recovery programs often failed to achieve their long-term, sustainable objectives.

263. (C) Unresolved geopolitical tensions and economic distress
During the interwar years, new borders were made unstable by the combination of lingering international conflicts and severe financial hardship. These two pressures worked together to weaken the foundations of newly established states. When diplomatic disagreements remained unsettled and citizens faced poverty, the resulting social and political friction made it impossible to maintain the integrity of the regional system.

264. (D) The failure to establish enduring institutional security
The lack of a strong and lasting framework for regional safety was a primary factor leading to the next major global war. Without reliable international organizations and treaties, states were unable to resolve their differences peacefully. This structural void allowed local disputes to escalate into widespread conflict, demonstrating that superficial agreements are insufficient for preventing the return of systemic hostilities.

216. (A) George H.W. Bush
President George H.W. Bush popularized the concept of a "New World Order" following the collapse of the Soviet Union. This vision emphasized a world where the rule of law and multilateral cooperation through the United Nations would replace the bipolar competition of the Cold War. It aimed to create a more stable international system where great powers would work together to address global security challenges and conflicts.

217. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The GDPR is a clear example of the EU's normative power, as its strict data privacy standards have forced global corporations to adapt their practices. This demonstrates that the EU can shape international behavior not through military force, but by setting regulatory standards that other actors must follow to access its massive market. Such policies reflect the EU's ability to project its values and rules onto the global stage.

218. (A) Constructivism - Emphasizes material power over ideas and identities
Constructivism in international relations theory emphasizes the power of shared ideas, norms, and identities in shaping state behavior, rather than just material power. Functionalism and neofunctionalism focus on technical cooperation and spillover, while intergovernmentalism highlights the role of sovereign states. understanding these theories is crucial for analyzing the different motivations and factors that drive the ongoing process of European integration and institutional development.

219. (D) The security umbrella and framework needed for recovery.
Hegemonic stability theory suggests that a dominant power can provide the public goods necessary for international order. After World War II, the United States provided the security umbrella through NATO and the economic framework through the Marshall Plan that allowed Western Europe to recover and eventually integrate. This US leadership was essential for creating the stability needed for long-term peace and the development of democratic institutions.

220. (B) Establishing a single European currency
The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) focuses on a wide range of security-related issues, including arms control, human rights, and election monitoring. It is not involved in economic integration or the establishment of a common currency, which are the domain of the European Union. The OSCE provides a unique forum for dialogue among a broad membership that includes both Western and post-Soviet states.

221. (C) Western communist parties distancing from Soviet democratic control.
Eurocommunism was a movement among Western European communist parties in the 1970s and 1980s that sought to develop an ideology independent of the Soviet Union. These parties emphasized democratic processes and national traditions rather than following the rigid dictates of Moscow. This trend reflected a growing diversity within the global communist movement and the unique political environments of democratic societies in Western Europe during the Cold War.

222. (D) It enabled internal crime tracking and the creation of Europol.
While the Schengen Agreement abolished internal border checks to facilitate travel, it also created a need for closer cooperation among national law enforcement agencies. This led to the creation of Europol and sophisticated systems for tracking cross-border crime and sharing information. These measures ensure that the benefits of open internal borders are balanced with the need to maintain security and combat organized crime across the union.

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223. (A) It caused deep divisions between Western and Eastern states.
The 2015 migration crisis created significant political divisions within the European Union, particularly between Western states that advocated for refugee quotas and Eastern states that strongly opposed them. This disagreement over how to distribute arrivals and manage external borders highlighted different perspectives on national sovereignty and identity. These internal tensions have made it difficult for the union to develop a comprehensive and unified migration policy.

central to shaping American Cold War strategy and the post-war European security architecture.

192. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
The European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) is designed to foster stability and prosperity in neighboring countries without offering a guaranteed path to full EU membership. Its goal is to create a "ring of friends" through economic and political cooperation, encouraging reforms and alignment with EU standards. This approach seeks to enhance regional security and prevent instability on the union's borders while maintaining a distinction between neighbors and members.

193. (B) Magna Carta - Russia
The Magna Carta is a landmark document in the development of constitutional law and individual rights in England, not Russia. Other historical processes like the Enclosure Movement in Britain, the Risorgimento in Italy, and the Zollverein in Germany were each instrumental in the economic and political state-building of their respective nations. These events highlight the different paths and mechanisms through which modern European states were formed and consolidated.

194. (A) Its members are directly elected by citizens rather than governments.
The European Parliament is a unique supranational body because its members are directly elected by the citizens of all EU member states. This differs from traditional international organizations where representatives are appointed by national governments. This direct mandate provides the parliament with a high degree of democratic legitimacy and allows it to represent the interests of European citizens rather than just their respective national states.

195. (C) The desire to escape the high living standards of the destination countries
Migration to Europe is typically driven by factors such as the need to escape conflict, seek economic opportunities, or reunite with family. Individuals move toward areas with higher living standards and better security, not away from them. These drivers highlight the role of Europe as an attractive destination for many seeking a better and safer life, while also presenting significant policy challenges for member states.

196. (D) An alliance commitment where an attack on one is an attack on all.
Collective defense is the core principle of a military alliance where members agree to provide mutual assistance if any one of them is attacked. This commitment is intended to deter aggression by ensuring that an attack on a single state will be met with a coordinated response from all allies. It is the fundamental concept behind NATO and has been central to European security for decades.

197. (C) Local crisis resolution failures caused US-led NATO intervention.
The US-led NATO intervention in the Yugoslav Wars was prompted by the inability of local actors and European diplomatic efforts to end the widespread violence and ethnic cleansing. This situation demonstrated that when regional mechanisms fail to resolve a crisis, broader international intervention may be necessary to restore peace. The conflict highlighted the complex challenges of managing ethnic tensions and the importance of decisive international action.

198. (B) They engage in the largest bilateral trade and investment relationship in the world.
The economic relationship between the United States and the European Union is the most significant in the world, characterized by massive volumes of trade and investment. They are each other's primary commercial partners, with deeply integrated markets and supply chains. While they occasionally experience trade disputes, their economic bond remains a vital anchor for the global economy and a key element of the transatlantic partnership.

199. (D) It is a land corridor between Kaliningrad and Belarus, near Poland.
The Suwałki Gap is a short stretch of land along the Polish-Lithuanian border that separates the Russian exclave of Kaliningrad from Russia's ally, Belarus. It is considered one of the most strategically vulnerable points in Europe because its capture would physically cut off the Baltic states from their NATO allies. Protecting this

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232. (A) 2 and 3
The US and EU share a massive economic relationship but frequently experience trade disputes over agricultural standards and state subsidies, such as the long-running Airbus-Boeing conflict. While they are close partners, these differences highlight how domestic interests and regulatory philosophies can create tension within the transatlantic alliance. These disputes are typically managed through negotiation and international trade mechanisms like the WTO to prevent broader economic damage.

233. (C) Disinformation - Exacerbating polarization in Western democracies.
Russia has increasingly used disinformation campaigns as a foreign policy tool to exacerbate political polarization and undermine public trust in Western democratic institutions. These efforts often involve spreading false or misleading narratives through social media and state-sponsored outlets. This strategy aims to weaken the internal cohesion of adversaries and create a more favorable geopolitical environment for Russian interests without resorting to direct and overt military confrontation.

234. (A) Framing it as an existential threat to justify extraordinary measures.
Securitization is the process where a social or political issue is framed as an existential security threat, justifying the use of extraordinary measures. In the EU, unauthorized migration has frequently been securitized, leading to increased border militarization and the expansion of surveillance. This approach shifts the focus from humanitarian or economic management to defense and control, often reflecting the political priorities of states facing domestic pressure.

235. (D) Hyperinflation, loss of savings, and dropped industrial output.
The "shock therapy" reforms in Russia during the 1990s led to immediate and severe economic distress for much of the population. Rapid price liberalization caused hyperinflation that wiped out life savings, while the sudden transition to market rules led to a massive drop in industrial production. These hardships created significant social instability and influenced the subsequent political landscape, leading to a desire for greater order and state control.

236. (B) 1, 2, and 3
The Soviet Union faced significant external and internal pressures, including the costly war in Afghanistan, the loss of credibility from the Chernobyl disaster, and the need to compete with US military spending programs like SDI. These factors drained resources and undermined public confidence in the regime. Contrary to being self-sufficient, the USSR struggled with food shortages and was increasingly vulnerable to international economic and technological trends.

237. (C) Coordination of national policies in groups of three or more states.
Multilateralism is the practice of coordinating national policies within groups of three or more states through international institutions and agreements. It is a cornerstone of European foreign policy, reflecting a belief that global challenges are best addressed through collective action and the rule of law. This approach contrasts with unilateralism and provides a framework for small and medium-sized states to have a significant influence on international outcomes.

238. (D) State-led industrial policy and the rules of economic globalization
This scenario illustrates the tension between a state's desire to use industrial policy and subsidies to support domestic green industries and its commitment to the non-discriminatory rules of global trade. As nations seek to transition to more sustainable economies, these domestic efforts may conflict with international agreements designed to ensure fair competition. Managing this conflict is a central challenge for contemporary global economic governance and environmental policy.

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239. (A) The European population is the youngest globally, with a massive youth demographic.
Contrary to having a large youth demographic, Europe is experiencing one of the world's fastest-aging populations. This trend is driven by high life expectancy and low birth rates, which are often below the replacement level. This demographic shift presents major challenges for the sustainability of healthcare and pension systems, as well as for future economic growth, making it a primary concern for policymakers across the entire continent.

208. (B) Catalans - Spain
Catalonia is a region in Spain with a strong sense of cultural identity and a prominent movement seeking greater autonomy or independence. This has led to significant political tension between the regional and central governments. Such movements reflect the ongoing challenge of managing regional and ethnic identities within the framework of traditional nation-states, particularly in a globalized era where local identities often resurface.

209. (A) 1, 4, 3, 2
The reformist era began with Mikhail Gorbachev's election in 1985, leading to the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. This was followed by the reunification of Germany in 1990 and the formal dissolution of the Warsaw Pact in 1991. This sequence marks the rapid and largely peaceful collapse of the Cold War bipolar system and the fundamental redrawing of the European political map.

210. (A) Widespread support for populist, anti-establishment political movements.
Chronic unemployment and economic marginalization are major factors that drive support for populist and anti-establishment political movements across Europe. Voters who feel left behind by economic changes often turn to parties that promise to prioritize national interests and challenge the power of global and regional institutions. This political shift can lead to increased polarization and challenge the consensus on further European integration and economic liberalization.

211. (C) 1, 2, and 4
The Nord Stream pipelines increased European reliance on Russian gas and bypassed transit countries like Ukraine, creating significant geopolitical tension. Their destruction in 2022 fundamentally altered energy security dynamics across the continent. These pipelines illustrate how energy infrastructure can be a tool of strategic influence and a source of vulnerability, shaping the diplomatic and economic relations between Russia and the European Union.

212. (D) Using non-military tools to frustrate actions of a dominant power.
Soft balancing is a strategic behavior where states use non-military instruments to constrain a more powerful actor. This can involve building diplomatic coalitions, using international law, or implementing economic regulations that challenge the hegemon's interests. For European nations, this approach allows them to influence global outcomes and protect their sovereignty without engaging in the high costs and risks associated with a traditional military arms race.

213. (C) Hybrid threat to state security
A large-scale cyber-attack on a nation's critical infrastructure, especially when its origin is obscured, is a prime example of a hybrid threat. Such actions aim to destabilize a state and erode public trust without resorting to open, conventional warfare. These threats present significant challenges for defense alliances, as they must determine how to respond to non-traditional attacks that may still trigger collective security commitments.

214. (B) It shifted global power away from Europe to South America.
The Industrial Revolution actually solidified Europe's position as the dominant global power center for much of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It provided the technological and economic means for imperial expansion and the securing of global trade routes. Rather than shifting power away, industrialization allowed European nations to exert unprecedented influence over Asia and Africa, shaping the course of modern global history and geopolitics.

215. (D) Using its vast territory to absorb and wear down invaders.
Strategic depth is a defensive concept where a nation, such as Russia, uses its immense geographic size to its advantage. By retreating into the interior, a defending army can force an invader to overextend its supply lines while facing the challenges of a vast and often harsh environment. This strategy has been a cornerstone of Russian military planning throughout its history, most notably during the Napoleonic and World Wars.

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248. (A) Keynesianism - Implementation of mixed economies and welfare states
In post-war Western Europe, Keynesian economic principles were widely adopted to rebuild economies and establish robust welfare states. This approach involved a mix of private enterprise and state intervention to manage demand and ensure full employment. These policies helped create a period of unprecedented economic growth and social stability, which was essential for the consolidation of democratic institutions and the early stages of European economic integration.

249. (A) 2, 4, 3, 1
The Treaty of Rome in 1957 established the EEC, followed by the Single European Act in 1986, which aimed to create a single market. The Maastricht Treaty in 1992 created the European Union, and the Treaty of Lisbon in 2007 further reformed its institutions. This progression shows the continuous and gradual deepening of European integration from a simple common market to a complex and comprehensive political and economic union.

250. (A) Global mobility causes states to pool regulatory sovereignty.
Globalization, particularly the increased mobility of capital, people, and information, has forced European states to pool their regulatory sovereignty through the EU. To effectively manage global economic and social challenges, nations have moved decision-making to the supranational level where they can act with greater collective influence. This shift represents a modern adaptation of the nation-state to a world where traditional borders are increasingly porous and interdependent.

251. (B) Its vast geography and resource distribution
The geostrategic approach of Russia towards the European continent is fundamentally shaped by its unique physical characteristics. Large territorial expanses and the specific allocation of natural assets create a framework for strategic decision-making. These environmental and material factors serve as the primary drivers influencing how the nation positions itself relative to its neighbors in the region.

252. (A) Strategic vulnerabilities
Shared borders between neighboring states create a complex security environment where physical proximity leads to inherent risks. This structural reality means that the closeness of territories naturally produces points of weakness that require constant monitoring. Strategic planning must account for these unavoidable exposures, as they are a direct consequence of geographic positioning and the nature of contiguity.

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253. (C) The control over vital geographic corridors
Maintaining authority over essential transit routes and spatial passages remains a priority for modern states interacting within the former Soviet domain. These geographic corridors are critical for both economic movement and military positioning. States focus on securing these areas because they represent the strategic backbone of regional influence, functional connectivity, and the long-term exercise of geopolitical power.

254. (D) The geostrategic setting
Regional stability is fundamentally determined by the overarching spatial and strategic configuration of the area. This setting provides the base upon which all security interactions and political calculations are built. The intersection of geographic realities and military objectives creates a foundational framework that governs how states maintain peace or engage in posturing within the complex European and Soviet sphere.

255. (C) Geography and strategic policy
Strategic policy within this region is intrinsically tied to the physical landscape and territorial boundaries. Geography dictates the limitations and opportunities available for state action, making it an essential component of security planning. This deep connection ensures that any attempt to formulate defense or offensive strategies must account for the spatial realities and the physical features of the land.

256. (B) By creating centralized administrative frameworks
During the era of industrialization, the need for rapid economic expansion necessitated more organized and efficient governance. This process accelerated state building by requiring the establishment of unified management systems and integrated infrastructure. Centralization

224. (B) Nationalist uprisings led to independent states like Greece.
In the nineteenth century, nationalism was a powerful force in the Balkans that led to several uprisings against Ottoman rule, eventually resulting in the independence of nations like Greece and Serbia. These movements were driven by a desire for self-determination and the creation of sovereign states based on shared ethnic and cultural identities. The disintegration of the Ottoman Empire in the region was a central theme of European history.

225. (B) The Democratic Transition
The period following the 1989 revolutions in Eastern Europe is known as the "democratic transition," as these states moved from communist rule to multi-party democracies and market-oriented economies. This process involved significant institutional and legal reforms to align with Western standards. While the path was often difficult and uneven, it marked a fundamental shift toward the liberal democratic model that defines much of contemporary Europe today.

226. (A) Coordinating the management of the EU's external borders
Frontex is the EU agency responsible for coordinating the management and security of the union's external borders. It provides support to member states in areas like surveillance, border control, and search and rescue operations. Its role has become increasingly central as the EU seeks to manage migration and respond to security challenges at its periphery while maintaining the principle of open internal borders within the Schengen Area.

227. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The "brain drain" is a critical demographic issue for many Eastern European countries, as skilled workers leave for better opportunities in the West. This movement is facilitated by the EU's principle of free movement of labor, which allows citizens to work in any member state. While beneficial for individual career growth, this trend can hinder the economic development and social stability of the countries losing their most productive citizens.

228. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalization can revitalize regionalist movements by weakening the economic relevance of the traditional nation-state. Regions like Scotland and Catalonia may seek more autonomy to integrate directly into the global economy while preserving their unique cultural identities. This phenomenon challenges the centralized authority of national governments and demonstrates how global integration can simultaneously foster local nationalism and a desire for greater regional self-determination and recognition.

229. (C) Russia
Russia was formerly a member of the group, which was then known as the G8, but was suspended in 2014 following its annexation of Crimea. The current G7 consists of the world's leading industrialized democracies, including Germany, Italy, France, and Canada. This exclusion reflects the international community's use of diplomatic and economic isolation as a response to actions that violate international law and the established norms of global order.

230. (B) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
A Customs Union includes a common external tariff, while a Single Market allows for the free movement of goods, capital, services, and labor. A Free Trade Area eliminates internal tariffs but maintains independent external policies. Non-tariff barriers include regulations and standards that can restrict trade. These different levels of economic integration are central to understanding the complexity and depth of the European Union's internal and external commercial relationships.

231. (A) Member states cede portion of sovereignty for integration benefits.
European integration involves member states voluntarily ceding certain aspects of their national sovereignty to supranational institutions in exchange for the benefits of a larger market and shared security. This "pooling of sovereignty" allows the EU to act more effectively on the global stage. However, states remain the ultimate masters of the treaties and can choose to withdraw from the union, as demonstrated by the recent process of Brexit.

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265. (A) Catalysts for subsequent systemic warfare
Agreements that only address the surface of conflicts and the presence of financial instability act as triggers for future large-scale fighting. These vulnerabilities ensure that the peace achieved is only temporary and lacks a solid foundation. Instead of resolving problems, these factors create a volatile environment where small incidents can quickly lead to the total collapse of security.

266. (B) It institutionalized the regional security architecture
The creation of major military alliances formalized the security environment across the continent by establishing rigid frameworks for defense. These organizations effectively divided the region into distinct strategic blocs with clear operational rules. This institutionalization meant that security was no longer managed through ad hoc arrangements but through permanent, structured military commitments and formalized alliance systems within the region.

267. (B) A collective defense alliance for Western security
This strategic organization was designed to unify the security interests of nations in the West through a commitment to mutual protection. By forming a collective defense network, member states sought to deter aggression and ensure stability across the region. This structure transformed individual national defense policies into a coordinated and powerful regional framework focused on shared safety and cooperation.

268. (A) Assured deterrence
The military strategies of both major blocs were centered on the idea that any attack would result in a devastating response. This principle relied on maintaining enough force to discourage the other side from initiating a conflict. By ensuring that neither party could win a war without suffering massive losses, these alliances aimed to prevent direct military confrontation and preserve peace.

269. (C) Through heavily armed standoff rather than diplomatic consensus
During the period of intense rivalry, peace was not reached through mutual agreement or negotiation but through a constant display of military strength. Both sides maintained massive forces to prevent the other from gaining an advantage. This environment of tension meant that stability was a result of fear and the balance of power rather than a shared diplomatic vision.

270. (D) Collective military readiness and ideological conformity
Both alliances expected their members to maintain high levels of defense capability and adhere to a specific set of political beliefs. By prioritizing shared military standards and thought, these blocs ensured internal cohesion and a unified response to external threats. This dual focus allowed the organizations to project strength and maintain control over their respective spheres of influence during the standoff.

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271. (C) A diplomatic instrument emphasizing territorial integrity
This significant international agreement served as a critical tool for managing state relations through peaceful negotiation. It focused specifically on maintaining established borders and reducing the likelihood of armed conflict by reinforcing legal norms. By prioritizing diplomatic cooperation, the accord aimed to stabilize the regional environment and ensure that state sovereignty was respected through mutual recognition and formal agreements.

272. (B) A system of pooled sovereignty
The structural evolution of the region led nations to move away from independent governance toward a more integrated model. In this new arrangement, states share their decision-making power within a collective institutional framework to achieve common goals. This transition allows for deeper cooperation and more effective management of shared economic and political challenges through a unified and powerful supranational approach.

273. (D) Normative groundwork for security and cooperation
The early diplomatic agreements established the essential rules and principles that would later allow for deeper regional integration. By setting standards for how nations should interact and respect each other's boundaries, these accords created a sense of trust. This foundation was necessary for the subsequent development of

across borders.
II. It completely eradicated informal economies in Latin America.
III. It facilitated the global reach of transnational criminal organizations.
IV. It led to cultural homogenization as well as cultural resistance.
V. It diminished the absolute sovereignty of the nation-state.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, III, and IV only
(B) II, III, IV, and V only
(C) I, III, IV, and V only
(D) I, II, IV, and V only

36. Which colonial power predominantly utilized the 'captaincies' system to administer its territory in the Americas?
(A) Spain
(B) Great Britain
(C) France
(D) Portugal

37. Which statement accurately identifies a major cause of the Latin American independence movements?
(A) The desire of the Peninsulares to grant more power to the indigenous populations.
(B) The complete economic collapse of the Spanish Empire prior to the year 1700.
(C) Influence of Enlightenment ideas and the success of the Atlantic revolutions.
(D) The British military invasion of all major South American urban centers.

38. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The "Good Neighbor Policy" was initiated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to improve relations with Latin America.
Statement II: It involved the formal annexation of several Caribbean islands.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

39. Which of the following is NOT considered a traditional geostrategic choke point in the Americas?
(A) Panama Canal
(B) Straits of Florida
(C) Strait of Magellan
(D) The Great Lakes

40. The concept of "Caudillismo" refers primarily to:
(A) Rule by charismatic, populist military leaders or strongmen.
(B) A formalized and institutionalized democratic voting system for citizens.
(C) An economic theory advocating for free trade between sovereign nations.
(D) A religious movement originating in the high-altitude regions of the Andes.

41. If a Latin American nation heavily taxes foreign mining corporations and nationalizes its energy sector, it is most likely demonstrating:
(A) Neoliberalism
(B) Globalist integration
(C) Resource nationalism
(D) Laissez-faire capitalism

42. Which external threat to state security in the Americas involves the covert interference of foreign intelligence in national elections?
(A) Cyber warfare and the spread of disinformation.
(B) Maritime piracy and illegal trade in international waters.
(C) Narcotics trafficking and the movement of illicit substances.
(D) Global climate change and environmental degradation across regions.

43. Identify the correct option after reading the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The United States imposed an economic embargo on Cuba in the early 1960s.
Reason (R): Cuba nationalized US-owned properties without compensation and aligned with the Soviet Union.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.

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Essential services, transportation networks, and housing facilities often struggle to accommodate the increased demand. This challenge requires a coordinated response to ensure that the basic needs of both the arriving populations and the local communities are met.

283. (B) Catalysts for displacement, generating waves of refugees
Conflicts between different cultural or social groups often force people to flee their homes in search of safety. These persistent disagreements create an environment of fear that drives large populations toward and across international borders. As long as these underlying tensions remain unresolved, they will continue to act as a primary reason for the mass movement of displaced individuals.

284. (A) Escalating crises related to migration refugees
When governments are unable to fix the root causes of social and cultural tension, they often face a growing number of people trying to escape those problems. This leads to a larger and more difficult situation involving the movement of displaced individuals. The failure to address internal divides results in a continuous and worsening problem that affects regional stability.

285. (C) Mitigating refugee impacts and resolving ethnic problems
Ensuring the safety of populations requires a two-part strategy that deals with both the current symptoms and the underlying causes of instability. Governments must provide immediate help to those who have been displaced while also working on long-term solutions to social divisions. By combining humanitarian aid with efforts to fix cultural conflicts, the region can move toward security.

286. (D) Robust trade mechanisms
Powerful commercial systems act as the main catalyst for driving economic development within the region. By enabling the steady flow of essential resources and finished products, these trade structures create the wealth necessary for national growth. The efficiency and strength of these market interactions determine the overall health and expansion of the interconnected regional economies and their long-term viability.

287. (C) To elevate the economic capacities of transitioning economies
By linking commercial activities with targeted support programs, the region seeks to strengthen the financial foundations of nations in the process of reform. This integrated strategy helps build necessary skills and infrastructure within these developing markets. Ultimately, the goal is to foster a more balanced regional economy where all participating states have the resources and ability to compete.

288. (B) Transforming transactional trade into institutional commitments
Strategic alliances go beyond simple buying and selling by creating deeper, more permanent connections between nations. These partnerships turn temporary business deals into long-lasting agreements supported by shared rules and organizations. This change ensures that economic cooperation is not just about short-term profit but is part of a broader, more stable framework that benefits all members over time.

289. (D) Mutual dependencies through trade and development
Long-term alliances are kept strong by the fact that nations become reliant on each other for growth and stability. Through continuous exchange of goods and collaborative efforts to improve economic systems, states create a bond where their success is tied together. This reliance makes it more beneficial for them to maintain their partnership rather than acting alone or in isolation.

290. (A) Sustainable developmental progress and strategic alliances
By combining trade, support programs, and strong partnerships, the region ensures that business activities lead to real, long-term improvement. This holistic method means that economic interactions do more than just generate money; they build stronger nations and deeper political ties. The result is a more resilient regional system where growth is steady and cooperation is built on a foundation.

291. (C) From an external balancer to a security guarantor
American involvement in the region evolved from a distant role aimed at maintaining equilibrium

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to a more permanent and essential function. Initially acting as an outside force, the United States eventually became deeply embedded in the defense structures of the continent. This shift highlights a transition toward providing direct and reliable protection for its European allies and institutional stability.

292. (A) Regional defense postures and alliance formations
The ongoing deployment of American resources significantly shapes the way European nations organize their military strategies and diplomatic partnerships. This involvement provides a stabilizing influence that guides how countries prepare for potential conflicts and with whom they cooperate. As a result, the strategic landscape and the structure of international agreements are heavily influenced by this persistent transatlantic presence.

293. (D) Foundational
The involvement of the United States is seen as the underlying base upon which the entire system of European institutions rests. Rather than being an optional or extra part of the regional structure, this presence is essential for maintaining order and balance. Without this support, the framework that holds together the various political and security agreements would be much less stable.

294. (B) The parameters of European integration and defense
Through its active role in security and diplomatic circles, the United States helps define the rules and limits for how regional nations work together. This influence affects how countries combine their political efforts and organize their military protections. By setting these boundaries, the American presence provides a consistent framework that guides the development of collective European policies and goals.

295. (C) It functions as a crucial stabilizing mechanism mitigating them
The role of the United States acts as a vital tool for reducing the uncertainty and fear that can exist between neighboring nations. By providing a reliable security presence, it helps prevent small disagreements from turning into larger regional crises. This stabilizing influence is essential for creating a safe environment where states can focus on cooperation and development instead of preparation.

296. (D) Integration of markets into an international system
Global economic shifts manifest primarily through the merging of local marketplaces into a singular, interconnected global network. This process breaks down barriers between countries, allowing for the rapid exchange of capital and goods across borders. As a result, national economies become highly dependent on international trends, moving away from isolated or strictly domestic financial and commercial models.

297. (A) Traditional state sovereignty
The increasing interconnectedness of global systems has fundamentally changed the concept of independent national authority. As financial and technological resources move more freely across borders, individual governments find it harder to maintain total control over their domestic environments. This shift forces a re-evaluation of how states exercise power and manage their affairs in an era where international forces have influence.

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298. (B) To remain competitive against transnational economic shocks
Governments must update their rules and strategies to ensure their nations can survive and thrive in a world where financial crises spread quickly across borders. By adapting their policies, they aim to protect their economies from sudden changes in the global market. This process is necessary because being part of an interconnected world means being exposed to external risks.

299. (B) The homogenization of institutional practices
One clear social and political effect of increased global connection is the way different countries begin to use very similar types of laws and government systems. As states interact more closely and follow international standards, their internal organizations often start to look and act like those in other nations. This trend leads to a more uniform approach to governance.

300. (A) A catalyst for modernization generating dependencies

The process of global integration functions as a contradictory force that both advances and complicates regional development. While it drives the adoption of modern technologies and efficient institutional practices, it also creates significant vulnerabilities. States gain access to new opportunities for growth but simultaneously become reliant on a complex web of international systems that are beyond their control.

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more complex economic and political systems that characterize the modern European landscape.

274. (A) Supranational structure
The process of regional integration moved away from simple agreements between two nations toward the creation of a higher governing authority. This shift allows for the development of laws and policies that apply to all member states equally. By building this comprehensive organization, the region has replaced fragmented alliances with a more unified and powerful system for managing shared interests.

275. (C) Economic interdependence and diplomatic institutionalization
Stability in the region was redefined by focusing on shared financial interests and the creation of formal organizations for negotiation. Instead of relying on military power, states became more connected through trade and investment. This shift meant that conflict became less likely because nations were too closely linked and had established clear, peaceful channels for resolving their differences and coordinating policies.

276. (A) Aggressive geopolitical posturing and territorial disputes
External challenges to the safety of a nation frequently appear as assertive maneuvers on the international stage or disagreements over physical borders. These actions directly threaten the sovereign limits of a country and create a climate of confrontation. Such pressures from outside actors force states to prioritize defense and recalibrate their strategies to protect their territorial boundaries and regional status.

277. (D) Domestic fragmentation and systemic administrative failures
Security within a nation is often compromised by the breakdown of social unity and the inability of government systems to function effectively. These internal issues create a landscape of instability that weakens the state from the inside. When public institutions fail to provide order and the population becomes divided, the overall resilience and safety of the country are significantly diminished.

278. (B) External pressures exacerbate internal divisions
When a nation faces a combination of threats, outside forces often make existing domestic problems even worse. This situation occurs when foreign interference or geopolitical tension targets the weak points in a country's social fabric. As a result, the state becomes increasingly unstable, as it must struggle with both international conflict and the widening of cracks within its own population.

279. (C) It frequently invites external opportunistic interference
A state that cannot manage its own internal instability often becomes a target for foreign powers looking to gain an advantage. These outside actors take advantage of domestic weakness to further their own interests, leading to meddling in local affairs. This connection highlights why domestic order is essential, as internal chaos provides the perfect opening for outside nations to exert influence.

280. (D) An approach neutralizing instability and foreign aggression
Maintaining national safety requires a strategy that simultaneously addresses problems inside and outside the borders. This means that a government must work to stop domestic unrest while also preparing to defend against attacks from other nations. Only by combining strong internal governance with effective external defense can a country ensure its long-term sovereignty and protect its people.

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281. (A) Migration refugees and pervasive ethnic problems
The concept of protecting individual wellbeing is under significant pressure due to the movement of displaced populations and deep-rooted cultural tensions. These two factors interact to create a highly unstable social environment. When large groups are forced to relocate while internal societal divisions persist, the ability of states to ensure the safety and dignity of people is severely compromised.

282. (B) Immense strain on regional infrastructure
The sudden movement of large numbers of people across borders creates significant pressure on the physical and logistical systems of host nations.

9. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The American Revolution preceded the French Revolution.
Statement II: The Haitian Revolution was the first successful slave rebellion that led to an independent state.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

10. Which is NOT a primary objective of state-building in post-colonial Latin America?
(A) Expanding European territorial holdings
(B) Establishing a monopoly on the legitimate use of force
(C) Developing bureaucratic infrastructure
(D) Fostering a cohesive national identity

11. Consider the following statements regarding the challenges to democratization in the Americas:
I. Military coups were a frequent occurrence in 20th-century Latin America.
II. High levels of economic inequality have stabilized democratic regimes.
III. Caudillismo historically undermined institutional democratic development.
IV. The presence of strong democratic institutions universally prevented authoritarian populism.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV only
(B) II and III only
(C) I, III, and IV only
(D) I and III only

12. In the context of internal threats to state security, which of the following is the most appropriate description of a 'narco-state'?
(A) A state that specializes in the legal production of pharmaceuticals for international export.
(B) A state where institutions are significantly influenced by powerful drug cartels.
(C) A state that implements strict criminalization of all narcotics through domestic policy.
(D) A country actively dedicated to the global eradication of various illicit crops.

13. Which insurgency group was primarily active in Peru during the 1980s and 1990s, posing a severe threat to state security?
(A) FARC
(B) Contras
(C) Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso)
(D) Zapatistas

14. What was the primary cause of the Falklands War (1982)?
(A) Strategic dispute over control of territorial claims in Antarctica.
(B) United Kingdom military intervention in Argentina's domestic politics.
(C) Conflict regarding exclusive rights to oil extraction in the South Atlantic.
(D) Argentine military invasion of British-controlled islands.

15. Consider the following statements regarding the role of extra-regional powers in the Americas:
I. China has increasingly invested in Latin America through the Belt and Road Initiative.
II. During the Cold War, the Soviet Union had no influence in the Western Hemisphere.
III. Russia has maintained strategic partnerships with Cuba and Venezuela.
IV. The United States actively encourages Chinese military bases in Central America.
V. Extra-regional powers often utilize economic aid to gain political leverage in the region.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, III, and V only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and V only
(D) I, IV, and V only

16. What is the fundamental concept behind 'neoliberalism' as applied to Latin American economies in the late 20th century?
(A) State ownership and centralized control of all major industrial sectors.
(B) Promotion of free trade, privatization, and market deregulation.
(C) Implementation of strict protectionist tariffs on various imported goods.

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(D) Total abolition of private property rights within the national economy.

17. The 'Pink Tide' in Latin America during the 2000s refers to which political phenomenon?
(A) The rise of far-right military dictatorships
(B) A shift towards left-wing and center-left governments
(C) A regional movement focusing on women's suffrage
(D) The widespread adoption of the US dollar as national currency

18. Which statement regarding the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is correct?
(A) It included the United States, Canada, and Mexico.
(B) It created a single currency for North America.
(C) It was replaced by MERCOSUR in 2020.
(D) It prohibited the movement of capital across borders.

19. Arrange the following historical events in chronological order:
I. Cuban Revolution
II. Signing of NAFTA
III. Monroe Doctrine
IV. US-Mexican War
(A) III, IV, I, II
(B) III, I, IV, II
(C) IV, III, I, II
(D) III, IV, II, I

20. Which of the following is NOT a member of MERCOSUR?
(A) Argentina
(B) Brazil
(C) Uruguay
(D) Mexico

21. What describes a state's ability to protect its citizens from severe and widespread threats, including poverty, disease, and violence?
(A) Geostrategy
(B) National Security
(C) Human Security
(D) Manifest Destiny

22. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the Organization of American States (OAS).
(A) It was founded to promote regional solidarity and cooperation among its member states.
(B) Only South American countries are eligible for membership.
(C) Its headquarters is located in Washington, D.C.
(D) It plays a role in observing elections and promoting democracy.

23. Identify the correct option after reading the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Globalization has led to mixed economic outcomes in Latin America.
Reason (R): While it integrated economies into global markets, it also exacerbated income inequality in several nations.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

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24. Which Latin American country shares the longest land border with the United States?
(A) Mexico
(B) Canada
(C) Guatemala
(D) Cuba

25. Which pair correctly links a geopolitical concept to its primary advocate?
(A) Heartland Theory - Simon Bolivar
(B) Good Neighbor Policy - George Washington
(C) Sea Power - Alfred Thayer Mahan
(D) Alliance for Progress - Theodore Roosevelt

26. Evaluate the impact of colonialism on state-building in the Americas. Which factor most hindered post-colonial institutional development?
(A) The legacy of extractive economic institutions and social stratification.
(B) The establishment of widespread public education systems by colonial powers.
(C) The immediate and successful transition to egalitarian democratic societies.
(D) The total absence of valuable natural resources across the entire region.

27. Match the items in List I with those in List II.

List I: Regional Grouping
P. USMCA
Q. ALBA
R. UNASUR
S. CARICOM
List II: Objective/Nature
1. Left-leaning alliance initiated by Venezuela and Cuba
2. Trade agreement replacing NAFTA
3. Economic integration in the Caribbean
4. South American regional political integration
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

28. Which of the following is an incorrect pair regarding historical conflicts?
(A) Chaco War - Bolivia and Paraguay
(B) Thousand Days' War - Argentina and Brazil
(C) Football War - El Salvador and Honduras
(D) War of the Pacific - Chile, Peru, and Bolivia

29. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The Washington Consensus promoted state-led import substitution industrialization.
Statement II: Structural Adjustment Programs often required Latin American countries to cut public spending.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

30. Which term refers to the 19th-century ideology that the United States was destined by God to expand its dominion across the North American continent?
(A) Isolationism
(B) Exceptionalism
(C) Containment
(D) Manifest Destiny

31. Consider the following statements about the geopolitical strategy of the USA in the Americas:
I. The US relies heavily on maintaining naval dominance in the Caribbean Sea.
II. The Roosevelt Corollary justified US military intervention in Latin America.
III. The US supported all leftist movements during the Cold War to promote democracy.
IV. The Panama Canal remains a vital geostrategic asset for the US.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV only
(B) I, II, and III only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

32. What is the defining characteristic of a "banana republic"?
(A) A state with a highly diversified and robust industrial manufacturing sector.
(B) A politically unstable country dependent on exporting limited resources.
(C) A robust democracy that strictly regulates foreign agricultural investments.
(D) A nation primarily dedicated to the export of organic fruit to global markets.

33. Which of the following best represents a competency in analyzing human security in the Americas?
(A) Listing the capital cities of all major South American sovereign nations.
(B) Assessing the impact of gang violence on displacement and migration.
(C) Memorizing the specific historical text of the 1823 Monroe Doctrine.
(D) Identifying the national flag and historical symbols of modern Canada.

34. In an effort to counter US hegemony, which extra-regional power has most aggressively utilized 'vaccine diplomacy' and infrastructure loans in Latin America recently?
(A) China
(B) Japan
(C) India
(D) Australia

35. Consider the following statements regarding the impact of globalization on the Americas:
I. It accelerated the flow of capital and goods

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CHAPTER 10

The Americas

1. Which concept primarily defines the 1823 United States policy opposing European colonialism in the Americas?
(A) Manifest Destiny
(B) Monroe Doctrine
(C) Roosevelt Corollary
(D) Good Neighbor Policy

2. Identify the correct statement regarding the geopolitical setting of the Americas.
(A) The Panama Canal connects the Atlantic and Pacific oceans as a critical maritime choke point.
(B) The Darien Gap provides a dense, roadless jungle region that currently prevents land transport.
(C) The Andes mountain range forms a continuous highland barrier along the western coast of South America.
(D) The Amazon River system flows primarily through the tropical regions of northern South America.

3. Identify the correct option after reading the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The United States often intervened in Latin American affairs during the early 20th century.
Reason (R): The Roosevelt Corollary claimed the US right to exercise international police power in the Western Hemisphere.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

4. Which of the following is an incorrect statement about the Treaty of Tordesillas (1494)?
(A) It divided the newly discovered lands outside Europe between Spain and Portugal.
(B) It was mediated by the Catholic Pope.
(C) It established a line of demarcation in the Atlantic Ocean.
(D) It granted Brazil to the Spanish Empire.

5. Which term best describes the socio-economic system established by the Spanish in the Americas to regulate Native American labor?
(A) Haciendas
(B) Mercantilism
(C) Encomienda
(D) Feudalism

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6. Identify the correct pair of Latin American revolutionary leader and the region they primarily liberated.
(A) Simon Bolivar - Northern South America
(B) Jose de San Martin - Argentina and Chile
(C) Toussaint Louverture - The French colony of Haiti
(D) Bernardo O'Higgins - The coastal regions of Chile

7. Match the items in List I with those in List II.
List I: Leader
P. Fidel Castro
Q. Miguel Hidalgo
R. Toussaint Louverture
S. George Washington
List II: Country of Revolution
1. Haiti
2. United States
3. Cuba
4. Mexico
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(C) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

8. Which of the following is an incorrect pair of a modern state and its former colonial power?
(A) Jamaica - Netherlands
(B) Brazil - Portugal
(C) Argentina - Spain
(D) Haiti - France

(D) A is false but R is true.

44. Identify the incorrect statement about the Alliance for Progress.
(A) Its initiation by United States President John F. Kennedy in 1961.
(B) Its total success in permanently eradicating regional poverty.
(C) Its goal to establish economic cooperation between the US and Latin America.
(D) Its aim to counter the perceived threat of communism spreading from Cuba.

45. Which of the following represents a correct pair of an indigenous civilization and its modern-day geographic location?
(A) Aztecs - The Andean highlands of modern-day Peru.
(B) Incas - The central valley regions of modern-day Mexico.
(C) Mayans - Guatemala and Southern Mexico.
(D) Olmecs - The southern plains of modern-day Argentina.

46. What was the primary effect of the Spanish colonial "Mita" system?
(A) Granting indigenous peoples equal voting and political rights.
(B) Facilitating free trade between the Spanish and British empires.
(C) Establishing the first primary and secondary schools in the Americas.
(D) Forced labor system used primarily in silver mining.

47. Match the items in List I with those in List II.
List I: Trade Agreement/Organization
P. NAFTA
Q. MERCOSUR
R. OAS
S. UNASUR
List II: Year Established
1. 1948
2. 1991
3. 1994
4. 2008
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

48. Which is an incorrect pair regarding a political figure and their associated country?
(A) Hugo Chavez - Venezuela
(B) Evo Morales - Colombia
(C) Augusto Pinochet - Chile
(D) Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva - Brazil

49. In analyzing regional conflicts, the "Football War" of 1969 demonstrates that:
(A) Sports competitions acting as the only primary cause of regional conflict.
(B) Demographic pressures and land disputes triggering armed conflict.
(C) The United States military routinely intervening in local football matches.
(D) Regional trade agreements preventing all forms of potential military conflict.

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50. The "Truman Doctrine" indirectly affected the Americas by:
(A) Precedent for containment leading to US Cold War interventions.
(B) Promoting a policy of isolationism within the Western Hemisphere.
(C) Immediately ending the economic embargo on the nation of Cuba.
(D) Returning the Panama Canal to Panamanian control during the 1940s.

51. Consider the following statements about post-independence nation-building in the Americas:
I. Boundaries of new states often followed former colonial administrative lines.
II. Federalism was uniformly adopted by all Latin American nations without conflict.
III. The integration of indigenous populations was a major challenge.
IV. Economic dependence on primary commodity exports persisted.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, and IV only

52. Which of the following constitutes the most significant internal threat to human security in the Northern Triangle of Central America today?
(A) Inter-state warfare between neighboring sovereign countries.

103. Identify the correct option after reading the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The United States often supported authoritarian regimes in Latin America during the Cold War.
Reason (R): The primary US objective was the containment of communism, often prioritizing anti-communist stability over democratic governance.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

104. Which concept describes the situation where economic activities are controlled largely by foreign corporations, resulting in political leverage over the host nation?
(A) Neocolonialism
(B) Autarky
(C) Mercantilism
(D) Isolationism

105. Identify the correct statement regarding globalization's impact on indigenous populations in the Americas.
(A) Uniform enrichment of indigenous communities through land privatization.
(B) The total and complete assimilation of all regional indigenous cultures.
(C) Conflicts over land rights and resource extraction on territories.
(D) The immediate halt of all multinational mining operations in the Amazon.

106. In assessing the geopolitical vulnerability of Caribbean island states, which factor is considered a structural external threat?
(A) Critical maritime crossroads for trade and naval power projection.
(B) Regional status based on its identical climate to southern Europe.
(C) Historical status of being exclusively colonized by Italy and Greece.
(D) Structural status due to the total absence of any valuable resources.

107. Match the items in List I with those in List II.
List I: Threat Type
P. State Security Threat
Q. Human Security Threat
R. Environmental Threat
S. Economic Threat
List II: Example in the Americas
1. Cartel infiltration of government
2. Deforestation of the Amazon
3. Capital flight and hyperinflation
4. Lack of access to clean water for marginalized groups
(A) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(D) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3

108. Which of the following is an incorrect statement about the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA)?
(A) It was founded by Venezuela and Cuba.
(B) It requires all members to adopt the US dollar.
(C) It is a project of regional economic and political integration based on socialist principles.
(D) It aims to counter the influence of US-led trade agreements.

109. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The "Lost Decade" of Latin America refers to the 1980s, characterized by severe debt crises and economic stagnation.
Statement II: The debt crisis was entirely resolved without any IMF intervention.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

110. Which is NOT a primary driver of US strategic interest in Latin America?
(A) Geographic proximity and border security
(B) Access to natural resources and markets
(C) Counter-narcotics and immigration control
(D) Establishing Latin America as a global nuclear superpower

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60. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the demographic composition of the Americas during the colonial period.
(A) Indigenous populations experiencing collapse due to European diseases.
(B) Social hierarchy was egalitarian and lacked racial stratification.
(C) Millions of enslaved Africans being forcibly brought to the Americas.
(D) Mestizos being persons of combined European and Indigenous descent.

61. Which document officially concluded the US-Mexican War (1846-1848)?
(A) Treaty of Paris
(B) Treaty of Versailles
(C) Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
(D) Adams-Onis Treaty

62. Which of the following pairs is correct regarding regional organizations and their primary focus?
(A) Collective military defense against extra-regional maritime powers.
(B) Economic integration initiatives conducted strictly with the United States.
(C) Promotion of free-market neoliberalism across all participating nations.
(D) Hemispheric political cooperation and dispute resolution.

63. Identify the correct option after reading the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The Amazon Basin is of significant geostrategic importance globally.
Reason (R): It acts as a massive carbon sink and holds vast reserves of biodiversity and fresh water.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

64. What constitutes a primary challenge to democratization in contemporary Venezuela?
(A) The total lack of oil and other valuable natural resources.
(B) Institutional erosion and centralization of executive power.
(C) A dominant right-wing military junta controlling the state.
(D) The complete absence of an urban population within the country.

65. If a student is assessing the geopolitical vulnerability of Caribbean island states, which factor is considered a structural external threat?
(A) High annual GDP growth rates across the regional economy.
(B) Extreme vulnerability to climate change and rising sea levels.
(C) An abundance of domestic oil and natural gas reserves.
(D) Strong and stable valuation of the national currency.

66. Identify the correct statement about the "Washington Consensus".
(A) Free-market policies prescribed by the IMF and World Bank.
(B) Political agreement that formally ended the United States Civil War.
(C) Defense pact between Washington D.C. and various Latin American capitals.
(D) Advocacy for heavy state intervention in all primary industrial sectors.

67. Match the items in List I with those in List II.
List I: Concept
P. Manifest Destiny
Q. Monroe Doctrine
R. Roosevelt Corollary
S. Good Neighbor Policy
List II: Description
1. US non-intervention in Latin America domestic affairs
2. US right to intervene as an international police power
3. Opposition to European colonialism in the Americas
4. Belief in the inevitable US territorial expansion
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1

68. Which is an incorrect pair regarding the colonial economy in the Americas?
(A) Brazil - Sugar and gold
(B) Potosi - Silver

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(C) Caribbean - Sugar and rum
(D) Argentina - Silk and spices

69. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The Zapatista Army of National Liberation (EZLN) launched an uprising in Mexico on the day NAFTA took effect.
Statement II: The EZLN demanded greater indigenous rights and opposed neoliberal globalization.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

70. Which of the following is NOT a consequence of globalization in the Americas?
(A) Increased foreign direct investment
(B) Eradication of all regional trade blocs
(C) Rise of transnational supply chains
(D) Cultural exchange and hybridization

71. Consider the following statements on regional partnerships:
I. The Pacific Alliance includes Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru.
II. The Pacific Alliance focuses on free trade and economic integration.
III. MERCOSUR is fundamentally a military alliance.
IV. Strategic partnerships with China have largely focused on raw material extraction and infrastructure.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) II, III, and IV only
(B) I, II, and III only
(C) I, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, and IV only

72. Which term refers to the process by which a newly independent country attempts to forge a shared national identity out of diverse populations?
(A) Nation building
(B) State building
(C) Neocolonialism
(D) Structural adjustment

73. Which event triggered the immediate US entry into World War II, fundamentally altering hemispheric security dynamics?
(A) Sinking of the Lusitania
(B) The Zimmerman Telegram
(C) Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor
(D) The Cuban Missile Crisis

74. Which of the following accurately describes "state capacity"?
(A) Ability of a government to administer territory and enforce rules.
(B) The total physical landmass and geographic area of a sovereign country.
(C) The number of active political parties participating in a given democracy.
(D) The total volume and value of a state's primary and secondary exports.

75. Consider the following statements about external threats and human security:
I. Extractive industries operated by foreign multinationals have sometimes led to environmental degradation.
II. Structural adjustment programs have historically bypassed human security concerns.
III. Human trafficking is a negligible issue in the Americas.
IV. The flow of arms from the Global North exacerbates cartel violence in Latin America.
V. Climate change heavily impacts the agricultural security of Central America.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, III, IV, and V only
(B) II, III, IV, and V only
(C) I, II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, IV, and V only

76. In the context of the Americas, the "Monroe Doctrine" served primarily as a tool for:
(A) Economic isolationism from all forms of international trade.
(B) Geopolitical boundary drawing against European powers.
(C) Promoting universal suffrage for all citizens in the Americas.
(D) Ending the practice of slavery across the Western Hemisphere.

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77. Which Latin American state is characterized as having a 'plurinational' constitution recognizing multiple indigenous nations within the state?
(A) Chile
(B) Argentina
(C) Bolivia
(D) Uruguay

78. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the colonial independence movements in the Americas.
(A) The Peninsular War weakening Spanish control over its colonies.
(B) Simon Bolivar envisioning a united republic of Gran Colombia.
(C) The Haitian Revolution led largely by enslaved people of African descent.
(D) The American Revolution was purely an indigenous uprising.

79. Identify the correct option after reading the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (Rio Treaty) is an agreement of mutual defense among countries of the Americas.
Reason (R): The Rio Treaty was heavily invoked by the US to support Argentina during the Falklands War.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

80. The concept of "Soft Balancing" in Latin American foreign policy refers to:
(A) Building large nuclear arsenals to directly deter the United States.
(B) Using diplomatic institutions to constrain hegemony without confrontation.
(C) Imposing complete economic autarky within the national borders.
(D) Surrendering sovereign authority to various extra-regional powers.

81. Which case study best exemplifies the challenge of internal state security posed by paramilitaries and guerrilla groups?
(A) Canada's peaceful transition to independence from the British Empire.
(B) The internal armed conflict in Colombia involving the FARC.
(C) The United States' strategic acquisition of the territory of Alaska.
(D) The political and geographic division of Hispaniola into two nations.

82. Which of the following is NOT considered an extra-regional power historically involved in the Americas?
(A) Paraguay
(B) France
(C) Soviet Union
(D) China

83. Identify the correct option after reading the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The establishment of NAFTA led to the restructuring of the Mexican agricultural sector.
Reason (R): Subsidized US agricultural products flooded the Mexican market, undercutting local small-scale farmers.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

84. Which of the following best defines "Geostrategy"?
(A) The study of global weather patterns and atmospheric conditions.
(B) The economic analysis of local markets and domestic consumption.
(C) The detailed geological surveying of international land borders.
(D) Geographic direction of foreign policy and military planning.

85. Identify the correct pair of US intervention and the target country during the Cold War.
(A) Bay of Pigs Invasion (1961) - Chile
(B) Operation Just Cause (1989) - Argentina
(C) Operation PBSUCCESS (1954) - Guatemala
(D) Support for the Contras - Brazil

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(B) Nuclear proliferation and the buildup of strategic weapons.
(C) Renewed European colonization of territories in the region.
(D) Transnational gang violence and organized crime.

53. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The Contadora Group was an initiative launched in the 1980s by Latin American countries to promote peace in Central America.
Statement II: The Contadora Group was a military alliance formed to support the US invasion of Grenada.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

54. Which of the following best defines "Import Substitution Industrialization" (ISI)?
(A) Policy prioritizing the importation of manufactured goods over domestic goods.
(B) Economic theory advocating replacing imports with domestic production.
(C) The complete removal of all tariffs to encourage international free trade.
(D) The substitution of industrial labor with traditional agricultural labor.

55. Consider the following statements regarding the impact of US extra-regional policies:
I. The Plan Colombia was a US military and diplomatic aid initiative aimed at combating Colombian drug cartels and left-wing insurgent groups.
II. The US never intervened in the domestic politics of Chile.
III. The Merida Initiative is a security cooperation agreement between the US, Mexico, and Central American countries.
IV. Operation Condor was a campaign of political repression supported by the US in South America.
V. The US has maintained continuous diplomatic relations with Cuba since 1959.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) III, IV, and V only
(C) I, IV, and V only
(D) I, III, and IV only

56. What is the most appropriate reason for the creation of UNASUR?
(A) Fostering South American integration independent of US influence.
(B) Formally inviting the establishment of US military bases in the region.
(C) Merging South American states into a single unified sovereign country.
(D) Coordinating a joint military invasion of territories in Central America.

57. Which external power established a short-lived empire in Mexico during the 1860s, placing Maximilian I on the throne?
(A) Great Britain
(B) Spain
(C) France
(D) Germany

58. The concept of "Dependency Theory", developed significantly by Latin American scholars, argues that:
(A) Resources flowing from a poor "periphery" to a wealthy "core."
(B) Wealthy nations depending on poorer nations for technological innovation.
(C) Economic development following a strictly linear path for all global states.
(D) Economic issues resulting purely from internal cultural and social deficiencies.

59. Arrange the following events in chronological order:
I. Independence of Brazil
II. Haitian Independence
III. Spanish-American War
IV. Cuban Missile Crisis
(A) II, I, III, IV
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, III, I, IV
(D) I, III, II, IV

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(B) They actively sought to become protectorate territories of the United States.
(C) They universally adopted extreme right-wing and conservative economic policies.
(D) Focus on poverty reduction, social programs, and resource nationalism.

95. Consider the following statements about the role of extra-regional powers:
I. China is currently the top trading partner for several South American countries.
II. European Union influence in the Americas is primarily focused on human rights, environment, and trade.
III. Russia utilizes arms sales and media platforms (like RT) to exert influence in Latin America.
IV. Extra-regional powers actively block all US trade in the hemisphere.
V. The Non-Aligned Movement gained significant traction in the Americas during the Cold War, led heavily by Cuba.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, III, and V only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, IV, and V only
(D) I, III, IV, and V only

96. The "Platt Amendment" historically pertained to the US relationship with which country?
(A) Mexico
(B) Cuba
(C) Canada
(D) Brazil

97. Which economic initiative was launched by US President John F. Kennedy to foster economic cooperation and counter the appeal of communism in Latin America?
(A) New Deal
(B) Alliance for Progress
(C) Marshall Plan
(D) Washington Consensus

98. Which factor is most responsible for the phenomenon of internal displacement in countries like Colombia?
(A) Armed conflict involving state forces, guerrillas, and paramilitaries.
(B) Rapid overpopulation occurring within the major urban centers.
(C) A collective desire for better and more accessible educational institutions.
(D) Mandatory government relocation programs for large-scale agricultural development.

99. Arrange the following economic integrations/ agreements in chronological order of their establishment:
I. NAFTA
II. USMCA
III. MERCOSUR
IV. ALBA
(A) III, I, IV, II
(B) I, III, IV, II
(C) III, I, II, IV
(D) I, IV, III, II

100. Which of the following is an incorrect pair of a geostrategic location and its geographical association?
(A) Darien Gap - Border of Colombia and Panama
(B) Drake Passage - South of Cape Horn
(C) Gulf of Fonseca - Bordering El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua
(D) Guantanamo Bay - Southern tip of Florida

101. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: State-building refers to the development of the structural and institutional apparatus of the state.
Statement II: Nation-building refers to the construction of a shared identity and sense of belonging among the population.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

102. Which is NOT a recognized challenge to human security in the Americas today?
(A) Food insecurity exacerbated by climate change
(B) Widespread access to universal basic income
(C) Gender-based violence and femicide
(D) Urban violence linked to drug trafficking

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86. What is the most appropriate indicator of successful democratization in a transitioning state?
(A) The holding of a single, unmonitored election for a new leader.
(B) Peaceful transfer of power between opposing political parties.
(C) The permanent suspension of the national constitution by the state.
(D) The widespread militarization of the police force to maintain order.

87. Match the items in List I with those in List II.
List I: Historical Event
P. Cuban Missile Crisis
Q. Independence of Haiti
R. Completion of Panama Canal
S. Creation of OAS
List II: Year
1. 1804
2. 1914
3. 1948
4. 1962
(A) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

88. Which of the following is an incorrect statement concerning state-building in the US?
(A) Westward expansion achieved entirely through peaceful purchases.
(B) The US Constitution established a federal system of national government.
(C) The Civil War resolving critical issues of state sovereignty and slavery.
(D) The process involving the systematic displacement of Native American tribes.

89. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo resulted in Mexico ceding roughly half of its national territory to the US.
Statement II: The Gadsden Purchase was a subsequent acquisition of land by the US from Mexico.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

90. Which socio-political concept best explains the enduring marginalization of indigenous communities in the Americas despite legal independence?
(A) Internal Colonialism
(B) Manifest Destiny
(C) Regional integration
(D) Liberal Institutionalism

91. Consider the following statements about US foreign policy tools in the Americas:
I. The CIA was used to overthrow democratically elected governments during the Cold War.
II. Foreign aid is completely restricted to countries with perfect human rights records.
III. Economic sanctions have been heavily utilized against regimes like Cuba and Venezuela.
IV. The US routinely uses the OAS to unilaterally dictate Latin American domestic policies.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) II and IV only
(C) I, III, and IV only
(D) I and III only

92. Which of the following is NOT a consequence of transnational organized crime in the Americas?
(A) High homicide rates in transit countries
(B) Strengthening of the rule of law
(C) Corruption of state officials
(D) Increased human trafficking

93. What was a primary ideological driver for nationalist movements in 19th-century Latin America?
(A) Marxism
(B) Fascism
(C) Liberalism and Enlightenment ideals
(D) Divine Right of Kings

94. Identify the correct statement regarding "Pink Tide" governments in Latin America.
(A) They uniformly rejected all forms of democratic and fair elections.

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111. Consider the following statements about regional conflicts:
I. The Cenepa War was a brief military conflict between Peru and Ecuador.
II. Border disputes in Latin America have frequently escalated into full-scale, prolonged wars in the 21st century.
III. The Beagle Conflict between Chile and Argentina was mediated by the Pope.
IV. The OAS has a mechanism for the peaceful settlement of disputes.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, III, and IV only
(B) I, II, and III only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, and IV only

112. The "Carter-Torrijos Treaties" of 1977 achieved what significant geopolitical change?
(A) Granted full political independence and sovereignty to Puerto Rico.
(B) Scheduled the transfer of the Panama Canal to Panamanian control.
(C) Established the North American Free Trade Agreement between nations.
(D) Ended the long-standing United States economic embargo on Cuba.

113. What is the most likely consequence of 'Dutch Disease' in a resource-rich Latin American economy?
(A) Rapid and successful diversification of the national manufacturing sector.
(B) Currency overvaluation making other sectors less competitive globally.
(C) Total collapse of the agricultural sector due to an imported fungus.
(D) Massive influx of highly skilled and educated immigrants from Europe.

114. Which extra-regional institution has played a highly controversial role in dictating economic policies in Latin America since the 1980s?
(A) The International Monetary Fund (IMF)
(B) The African Union
(C) ASEAN
(D) NATO

115. Consider the following statements regarding democratic backsliding in the Americas:
I. It involves the gradual decay of democratic institutions and norms.
II. It is often driven by democratically elected leaders who slowly consolidate executive power.
III. It always begins with a sudden, violent military coup.
IV. Weakening of the independent judiciary is a common tactic.
V. Harassment of independent media frequently accompanies this process.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, III, and IV only
(B) II, III, IV, and V only
(C) I, II, IV, and V only
(D) I, III, IV, and V only

116. Which of the following defines "Mano Dura" policies commonly employed in Central America?
(A) Soft diplomacy initiatives and increased economic aid to regions.
(B) Large agricultural subsidies provided for marginalized rural farmers.
(C) Open border agreements facilitating the free movement of citizens.
(D) Iron fist security policies using police and military against gangs.

117. Identify the correct pair regarding an independence leader and their ideology/action.
(A) Simon Bolivar - Advocated for a fragmented, localized series of independent republics
(B) Thomas Jefferson - Authored the Emancipation Proclamation
(C) Toussaint Louverture - Led an anti-slavery revolution
(D) Dom Pedro I - Established a socialist republic in Brazil

118. Which statement about the impact of globalization on Latin American culture is incorrect?
(A) It has led to the spread of US cultural products (movies, music) throughout the region.
(B) It completely erased indigenous languages across the hemisphere.
(C) It facilitated the global popularity of Latin American cultural exports (e.g., Reggaeton, literature).
(D) It created hybrid cultural forms integrating

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global and local elements.

119. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The Monroe Doctrine was highly enforceable by the US military at the time it was announced in 1823.
Statement II: The Doctrine initially relied implicitly on the British Royal Navy to deter other European powers.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

120. Which term describes the process of transitioning a state's economy from state-controlled to free-market, often heavily impacting state-building trajectories?
(A) Economic liberalization
(B) Nationalization
(C) Import substitution
(D) Expropriation

121. The term "Balkanization" is sometimes applied to Latin America to describe:
(A) The unification of the entire continent into a single sovereign state.
(B) The rapid industrialization occurring within the regions of the Southern Cone.
(C) Fragmentation of the Spanish Empire into multiple independent states.
(D) The widespread adoption of various Eastern European languages in the region.

122. Which of the following does NOT represent a significant external threat to the state security of Latin American nations in the 21st century?
(A) Direct military invasion by a unified European army.
(B) Transnational drug trafficking organizations operating across borders.
(C) Cyber attacks targeting a nation's critical infrastructure and power.
(D) Illegal and unregulated fishing by various foreign distant-water fleets.

123. Identify the correct option after reading the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Democratization in Latin America has faced significant challenges from extreme economic inequality.
Reason (R): High inequality often breeds social unrest, populist appeals, and distrust in democratic institutions.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

124. Which country is associated with the 'Shining Path' insurgency, representing a severe threat to state security?
(A) Colombia
(B) Peru
(C) Chile
(D) Mexico

125. Identify the correct statement regarding China's involvement in Latin America.
(A) Primary interest in establishing democratic institutions within the region.
(B) Deployment of massive ground troop formations to the nation of Brazil.
(C) Major lender often securing loans with commodity exports.
(D) Complete boycott of all countries that maintain trade with the US.

126. Applying the concept of "Hegemonic Stability Theory", the relative peace in the Americas during the 20th century can arguably be attributed to:
(A) The absolute equality of all Latin American military and naval forces.
(B) The constant and effective intervention of the historical League of Nations.
(C) The complete isolation of the entire hemisphere from any global trade.
(D) Undisputed dominance and policing role of the United States.

127. Match the items in List I with those in List II.
List I: Geopolitical Concept/Policy
P. Big Stick Diplomacy
Q. Dollar Diplomacy

R. Good Neighbor Policy
S. Alliance for Progress

List II: Description

1. Use of private capital and investments to further US foreign policy
2. Promotion of economic growth to deter communism
3. Non-intervention and non-interference
4. Negotiating peacefully while maintaining military threat

(A) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

128. Which is an incorrect pair of a nation and its primary export historically driving its economy?
(A) Chile - Copper
(B) Argentina - Microchips
(C) Venezuela - Oil
(D) Cuba - Sugar

129. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The Organization of American States (OAS) suspended Cuba's membership in 1962.
Statement II: The OAS lifted the suspension of Cuba in 2009.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

130. Which policy is NOT an example of 'neoliberalism' in Latin America?
(A) Nationalizing the banking sector
(B) Privatizingstate-ownedtelecommunications
(C) Reducing tariffs on foreign imports
(D) Deregulating labor markets

131. Consider the following statements about US interventions:
I. The US intervened in the Dominican Republic in 1965 to prevent a "second Cuba."
II. The US invasion of Grenada in 1983 was code-named Operation Urgent Fury.
III. The US supported the Sandinistas in Nicaragua during the 1980s.
IV. The US backed the 1973 military coup in Chile.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I, II, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

132. What is the fundamental characteristic of a "Client State" in the context of inter-American relations?
(A) A state that operates with complete and total diplomatic autonomy.
(B) A state that exclusively exports specialized services to other nations.
(C) A powerful nation that routinely imposes its will on a weaker nation.
(D) A state dependent on a more powerful state.

133. Which regional organization was specifically created to foster integration among Caribbean nations?
(A) MERCOSUR
(B) ALBA
(C) CARICOM
(D) USMCA

134. Which phenomenon directly contributes to the challenge of state-building by creating alternative centers of power within a state's territory?
(A) Rapid urbanization occurring within the major population centers.
(B) Armed insurgency and cartels controlling territory.
(C) High literacy rates achieved through effective national education.
(D) Implementation of universal healthcare for all citizens of the state.

135. Consider the following statements regarding the geopolitical significance of the Americas:
I. North America contains two advanced, highly integrated economies (US and Canada).
II. Latin America is rich in strategic minerals like lithium and copper.
III. The Darien Gap provides a rapid transit

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185. Identify the correct statement regarding the impact of globalization on labor in the Americas.
(A) Universally increasing the bargaining power and influence of all labor unions.
(B) Resulting in a completely and totally closed labor market in North America.
(C) "Race to the bottom" where countries lowered standards to attract investment.
(D) Forcing all transnational corporations to pay the US minimum wage globally.

186. Which case study represents a direct US military intervention designed to remove a foreign head of state involved in drug trafficking?
(A) Operation Just Cause (Panama, 1989)
(B) The Bay of Pigs (Cuba, 1961)
(C) The Falklands War (1982)
(D) The Mexican-American War (1846)

187. Match the items in List I with those in List II.
List I: Term
P. Mestizo
Q. Mulatto
R. Peninsular
S. Creole
List II: Definition
1. Spanish-born Spaniard residing in the New World
2. Person of mixed European and Indigenous ancestry
3. Person of European descent born in the New World
4. Person of mixed European and African ancestry
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

188. Which is an incorrect pair of an extra-regional power and its strategic interest in the Americas?
(A) China securing various primary commodities and infrastructure investments.
(B) European Union expanding its territorial empire in South America.
(C) Russia building military alliances and challenging the United States' hegemony.
(D) Iran establishing diplomatic ties and evading various international sanctions.

189. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The "Democratic Peace Theory" suggests that democratic nations rarely go to war with one another.
Statement II: The prevalence of democracies in South America since the 1990s correlates with a lack of inter-state wars in the region.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

190. Which is NOT a characteristic of the "Washington Consensus"?
(A) Tax reform
(B) Trade liberalization
(C) Privatization of state enterprises
(D) State-led industrialization

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191. Consider the following statements about human security challenges:
I. High levels of economic inequality undermine human security.
II. Migration crises, such as the exodus from Venezuela, strain regional human security.
III. Human security is solely defined by the presence of a strong military.
IV. The COVID-19 pandemic severely exposed the fragility of human security in Latin America.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV only
(B) I, II, and III only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

192. Which concept explains the geopolitical strategy of maintaining friendly but dependent states around a major power's periphery?
(A) Isolationism
(B) Sphere of Influence
(C) Non-alignment
(D) Multilateralism

193. The "Zimmermann Telegram" was a strategic threat to US security because it:

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explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

144. Which term describes the economic model where Latin American countries exported raw materials and imported manufactured goods from industrialized nations?
(A) Import Substitution Industrialization
(B) Agro-export model
(C) Command economy
(D) Post-industrialism

145. Identify the correct statement regarding nationalism in the Americas.
(A) Nationalism in the United States strictly rejects any notion of exceptionalism.
(B) Anti-Americanism has been a potent component of some nationalisms.
(C) Civic nationalism is entirely and completely absent within the state of Canada.
(D) Indigenous nationalism seeks to completely assimilate into Euro-centric structures.

146. In the context of globalization, what does "maquiladora" refer to?
(A) Foreign-owned plant in Mexico importing materials and exporting products.
(B) A traditional Mexican dance performed during major national festivals.
(C) A specific type of indigenous agricultural technique used in rural areas.
(D) A regional political alliance formed between various sovereign states.

147. Match the items in List I with those in List II.
List I: Country
P. Colombia
Q. Mexico
R. Haiti
S. Venezuela
List II: Key Internal Threat to Security
1. Cartel violence and territorial control
2. Severe political/economic collapse and hyperinflation
3. Decades-long guerrilla insurgency (though mitigating)
4. State collapse and extreme gang violence
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

148. Which is an incorrect pair of a trade agreement and its member nations?
(A) USMCA - USA, Mexico, Canada
(B) CAFTA-DR - USA, Central American nations, Dominican Republic
(C) Pacific Alliance - Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru
(D) Andean Community (CAN) - Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay

149. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The Treaty of Tlatelolco (1967) established Latin America and the Caribbean as a nuclear-weapon-free zone.
Statement II: Cuba was the first country to sign and ratify the Treaty of Tlatelolco.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

150. Which of the following best defines "Human Security"?
(A) The physical protection of state borders from any external military invasion.
(B) People-centered approach focusing on protection from hunger and disease.
(C) The development of highly advanced and complex cyber-warfare capabilities.
(D) The expansion of national territory for the purpose of resource acquisition.

151. Consider the following statements about regional disputes:
I. Bolivia lost its access to the sea during the War of the Pacific.
II. The Falkland Islands are claimed by both the UK and Argentina.
III. The US and Canada have an ongoing border dispute.
IV. Venezuela claims a significant portion of Guyana's territory (Essequibo).
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only

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governments

169. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: Globalization has facilitated the rise of powerful transnational corporations (TNCs) in the Americas.
Statement II: These TNCs are universally held strictly accountable to the environmental laws of the host nations.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

170. Which of the following is NOT a consequence of the colonial legacy in Latin America?
(A) Rapid and uniform industrialization in the 19th century
(B) Highly concentrated land ownership (Latifundia)
(C) Entrenched socio-racial hierarchies
(D) Dependence on primary commodity exports

171. Consider the following statements about regional development cooperation:
I. The CAF (Development Bank of Latin America) finances infrastructure and sustainable development projects.
II. ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean) promotes economic development in the region.
III. Development cooperation is often hindered by political polarization between governments.
IV. Regional development banks have been completely replaced by the IMF.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) II, III, and IV only
(B) I, III, and IV only
(C) I, II, and IV only
(D) I, II, and III only

172. The "Soft Power" in the Americas is most effectively demonstrated by:
(A) The strategic deployment of aircraft carriers to the Caribbean Sea region.
(B) Global popularity of Latin American culture and US cultural exports.
(C) The implementation of economic sanctions against a neighboring sovereign state.
(D) The covert funding and support provided to various regional rebel groups.

173. Which environmental challenge currently acts as a severe threat to human security in the Amazon basin?
(A) Massive desertification occurring due to a total lack of annual rainfall.
(B) Rapidly rising sea levels completely submerging the entire rainforest.
(C) Rampant deforestation driven by agribusiness and illegal mining.
(D) High levels of overpopulation occurring among the various indigenous tribes.

174. In evaluating US-Latin America relations, the "Imperialism of Free Trade" suggests that:
(A) The US forcing Latin American countries to physically expand their borders.
(B) Free trade agreements always resulting in perfectly symmetrical benefits.
(C) The United States rejecting all forms of trade with the Latin American region.
(D) US economic dominance through market access without formal annexation.

175. Consider the following statements regarding the role of extra-regional actors:
I. The European Union is the leading foreign investor in several Latin American countries.
II. China has focused its diplomacy largely on securing raw materials like soybeans, copper, and oil.
III. Iran has sought to establish diplomatic and economic ties in the region to bypass US sanctions.
IV. Japan has no trade relations with any Latin American country.
V. Russia's presence is primarily military-strategic rather than purely economic.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, III, and V only
(B) I, II, IV, and V only
(C) II, III, IV, and V only
(D) I, III, IV, and V only

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161. A student analyzing nation-building in post-colonial Latin America notes that the process was complicated primarily by:
(A) A highly homogeneous population with shared cultural values.
(B) Deeply entrenched social stratifications based on race and class.
(C) Excessive financial aid from former colonial powers.
(D) The immediate success of highly centralized democracies.

162. Which of the following best describes the "Dependency Theory" perspective on globalization?
(A) Globalization perpetuates unequal relationships between core and periphery.
(B) Globalization leads to equal and balanced development for all global nations.
(C) Globalization causes wealthy core nations to become dependent on the periphery.
(D) Globalization completely and totally eliminates all forms of international trade.

163. Identify the correct option after reading the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The United States views China's increasing economic presence in Latin America with strategic concern.
Reason (R): Chinese investments in critical infrastructure, such as ports and telecommunications, could be leveraged for geopolitical and military advantages.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

164. What is the defining feature of "Populism" in the Latin American context?
(A) Elite-driven policies that strictly adhere to all orthodox economic theories.
(B) A firm commitment to maintaining minimal state intervention in all social affairs.
(C) Exclusive reliance on military force without any form of popular public support.
(D) Political mobilization based on charismatic leadership appealing to the masses.

165. Identify the correct statement regarding the geostrategic setting of North America.
(A) The United States shares land borders with four different sovereign nations.
(B) Mexico is completely and totally isolated from all major global trade routes.
(C) Canada's trade reliance makes US-Canada relations asymmetrical but integrated.
(D) The Arctic region holds no geopolitical or strategic value for North American countries.

166. A case study of the "Water War" in Cochabamba, Bolivia (2000) primarily illustrates:
(A) A conflict between two sovereign states over a shared international river.
(B) Resistance against privatization of public utilities under neoliberal policies.
(C) A military dispute over a specific maritime boundary in the Pacific Ocean.
(D) The successful implementation of a structural adjustment program by the state.

167. Match the items in List I with those in List II.
List I: Political Figure
P. Hugo Chavez
Q. Augusto Pinochet
R. Franklin D. Roosevelt
S. Simon Bolivar
List II: Ideology/Policy
1. Neoliberal economic reforms under dictatorship
2. Good Neighbor Policy
3. 21st Century Socialism
4. Pan-Americanism and Gran Colombia
(A) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4

168. Which is an incorrect pair regarding historical declarations/doctrines?
(A) Stimson Doctrine - Promoted immediate military intervention in South America
(B) Drago Doctrine - Denounced the use of armed force to collect sovereign debt
(C) Calvo Doctrine - Foreigners should not seek diplomatic protection from their home countries
(D) Estrada Doctrine - Mexico's policy of not judging the legitimacy of foreign

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(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, and IV only

152. What was a major ideological justification used for European colonialism in the Americas?
(A) The "civilizing mission" and spread of Christianity
(B) The desire to establish democratic republics
(C) The promotion of indigenous sovereignty
(D) The prevention of climate change

153. A competency-based analysis of the "Washington Consensus" would conclude that its implementation in Latin America largely resulted in:
(A) The total and complete elimination of poverty and income inequality.
(B) The universal adoption of various communist and socialist economic models.
(C) Macroeconomic stabilization but increased social inequality and vulnerability.
(D) The immediate and total collapse of all Latin American national governments.

154. Which extra-regional power historically used Cuba as a strategic proxy during the Cold War?
(A) Soviet Union
(B) China
(C) France
(D) Great Britain

155. Consider the following statements regarding the impact of the US on regional democratization:
I. The US consistently promoted democracy above all other interests.
II. During the Cold War, the US often prioritized anti-communism, leading to support for right-wing dictatorships.
III. Post-Cold War, US policy has generally supported democratic institutions.
IV. US economic sanctions are often used as a tool to pressure authoritarian regimes.
V. The US has never influenced an election in Latin America.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, III, and IV only
(B) II, III, IV, and V only
(C) I, III, and IV only
(D) II, III, and IV only

156. The term "Creole" (Criollo) in the context of Spanish colonial society refers to:
(A) People of purely indigenous descent
(B) People of Spanish descent born in the Americas
(C) Peninsulares who returned to Spain
(D) Enslaved peoples from Africa

157. Which policy marked a shift away from direct military intervention in Latin America by the US during the 1930s?
(A) Monroe Doctrine
(B) Big Stick Diplomacy
(C) Good Neighbor Policy
(D) Containment

158. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the independence of Brazil.
(A) It was relatively bloodless compared to Spanish American independence.
(B) The independence was declared by Dom Pedro I, a member of the Portuguese royal family.
(C) Brazil remained a monarchy until 1889.
(D) It resulted in a republic immediately upon independence in 1822.

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159. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) provides financial and technical support to countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.
Statement II: The IDB is exclusively funded and managed by European nations.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

160. Which internal threat poses the greatest challenge to state sovereignty by heavily arming non-state actors?
(A) Legal immigration
(B) Transnational drug cartels
(C) Free trade agreements
(D) International tourism

176. What was the primary motivation behind the creation of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)?
(A) To merge the three countries into one political entity
(B) To update and replace NAFTA, modifying rules of origin and labor provisions
(C) To create a military alliance against China
(D) To establish a single North American currency

177. Which Latin American nation is recognized for completely abolishing its military in 1948?
(A) Panama
(B) Costa Rica
(C) Uruguay
(D) Belize

178. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the independence movements in the Americas.
(A) Independence resulted in immediate and stable democratic governance everywhere.
(B) The British colonies in North America fought a war of independence from 1775 to 1783.
(C) The Napoleonic Wars in Europe created a power vacuum in the Spanish colonies.
(D) Leaders like San Martin and Bolivar collaborated to liberate South America.

179. Arrange the following democratization events in chronological order:
I. End of the military dictatorship in Brazil
II. Election of Nelson Mandela in South Africa
III. Fall of the Berlin Wall
IV. Transition to democracy in Chile
(A) I, IV, III, II
(B) I, III, IV, II
(C) IV, I, III, II
(D) IV, III, I, II

180. Which concept describes the economic vulnerability of states that export only one or two primary commodities?
(A) Diversification
(B) Autarky
(C) Industrialization
(D) Export Concentration / Monoculture

181. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The "Tequila Crisis" refers to the 1994 economic crisis in Mexico caused by the sudden devaluation of the peso.
Statement II: The crisis had no spillover effects on other Latin American economies.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

182. Which external threat is increasingly utilizing the Americas as a transit route, exacerbating regional insecurity?
(A) International arms embargoes implemented against various sovereign states.
(B) Transnational terrorist financing networks and illicit drug flows.
(C) Large-scale legal migration patterns originating from various European nations.
(D) United Nations peacekeeping missions operating within the regional territories.

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183. Identify the correct option after reading the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Left-leaning "Pink Tide" governments in the 2000s heavily emphasized regional integration without the US.
Reason (R): They viewed US-led initiatives like the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) as tools of neo-imperialism.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false.
(D) A is false but R is true.

184. What does "Asymmetrical Warfare" refer to in the context of internal threats in the Americas?
(A) Conflict between a state and non-state actors using unconventional tactics.
(B) Warfare conducted strictly between two equal and balanced national navies.
(C) International trade wars centered on the implementation of high tariffs.
(D) Diplomatic and political disputes occurring within the United Nations.

route for heavy machinery.
IV. The geographic isolation of the Americas provides a strategic buffer for the United States.
V. Control of the Caribbean is geostrategically irrelevant to the United States.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, III, and V only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I, II, IV, and V only
(D) I, II, and IV only

136. The "Roosevelt Corollary" was specifically an addition to which pre-existing US policy?
(A) Monroe Doctrine
(B) Truman Doctrine
(C) Manifest Destiny
(D) Open Door Policy

137. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of 'Resource Curse' in the Americas?
(A) A mythological curse historically placed on colonial gold reserves.
(B) The rapid depletion of renewable resources due to local overpopulation.
(C) Paradox where resource-abundant countries have worse development outcomes.
(D) The high financial cost associated with importing energy resources.

138. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the demographic and cultural setting of the Americas.
(A) French is the primary official language of Jamaica.
(B) Spanish is the most widely spoken language in South America.
(C) Portuguese is the official language of Brazil.
(D) Indigenous languages like Quechua and Guarani are still widely spoken.

139. Arrange the following interventions/events in chronological order:
I. Bay of Pigs Invasion
II. US invasion of Panama (Operation Just Cause)
III. Overthrow of Jacobo Arbenz in Guatemala
IV. Military coup against Salvador Allende in Chile
(A) III, I, IV, II
(B) I, III, II, IV
(C) III, IV, I, II
(D) I, II, III, IV

140. Which concept explains the strategic importance of the "Lithium Triangle" in South America?
(A) Acts as the historical and cultural center of the ancient Inca Empire.
(B) Contains a majority of lithium reserves critical for global battery production.
(C) Represents a triangular maritime chokepoint for international trade routes.
(D) Functions as a heavily fortified military alliance zone between nations.

141. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: Mercosur is a regional integration process, initially established by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay.
Statement II: The primary objective of Mercosur is to create an exclusive military alliance against the US.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

142. Which is NOT an example of soft power utilized by the United States in the Americas?
(A) Fulbright exchange programs
(B) USAID development projects
(C) Export of Hollywood movies and pop culture
(D) Direct military intervention

143. Identify the correct option after reading the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The transition from military rule to democracy in Latin America during the 1980s is known as the 'Third Wave' of democratization.
Reason (R): It coincided with economic stability and a massive influx of wealth for the lower classes.
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct

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(A) Revealed the secret presence of Soviet nuclear missiles on the island of Cuba.
(B) Proposed a military alliance between Germany and Mexico against the US.
(C) Detailed a complex plan to strategically bomb the entire Panama Canal zone.
(D) Outlined various British plans to reclaim the original American colonies.

194. What is the most appropriate description of "Neo-extractivism" in 21st-century Latin America?
(A) Using resource revenues to fund social welfare programs.
(B) The total and complete halt of all mining activities within the country.
(C) The exclusive extraction and use of various renewable natural resources.
(D) A policy of importing all required raw materials from other global continents.

195. Consider the following statements regarding regional integration:
I. UNASUR has faced paralysis due to political polarization.
II. PROSUR was created as a right-leaning alternative to UNASUR.
III. CELAC includes all states in the Americas except the US and Canada.
IV. Regional integration in Latin America has historically been as institutionally deep as the EU.
V. The OAS remains the only hemispheric forum that includes the US.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV only
(B) II, III, IV, and V only
(C) I, II, III, and V only
(D) I, III, IV, and V only

196. Which term describes the complex network of relationships, trade, and cultural exchange across the US-Mexico border?
(A) The Iron Curtain
(B) Insular isolation
(C) Hemispheric detachment
(D) Borderlands phenomenon

197. Which economic agreement aimed to create a free trade zone encompassing all of the Americas but ultimately failed due to regional opposition?
(A) ALBA
(B) NAFTA
(C) FTAA (Free Trade Area of the Americas)
(D) MERCOSUR

198. Identify the correct statement about state building in Haiti.
(A) Haiti was the first independent nation in the Americas.
(B) Haiti faced challenges partly due to a massive indemnity imposed by France.
(C) Haiti's independence was welcomed and supported by all neighboring countries.
(D) Haiti completely avoided foreign intervention in the 20th century.

199. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The "Monroe Doctrine" was a bilateral treaty signed between the US and European powers.
Statement II: It was a unilateral declaration by the US.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

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200. Which does NOT constitute a structural challenge to democratization in the Americas?
(A) Universal literacy rates
(B) Deep socio-economic inequality
(C) Weak rule of law and institutional corruption
(D) Clientelism and patronage networks

201. Which conflict in the late 19th century established the US as a dominant regional power?
(A) The War of 1812
(B) The Mexican-American War
(C) The Spanish-American War (1898)
(D) The Falklands War

202. The concept of "Internal Colonialism" implies that:
(A) A country colonizes parts of its own

territory, exploiting marginalized groups.
(B) A country focuses strictly on domestic trade.
(C) Internal territories are given complete autonomy.
(D) A nation invites foreign powers to manage its interior provinces.

203. Which is an incorrect pair of a region and its geostrategic significance?
(A) Panama Canal - Connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans for maritime trade.
(B) Strait of Magellan - Southern sea route separating the mainland and Tierra del Fuego.
(C) Gulf of Mexico - Rich in oil reserves and acts as a gateway to the US South.
(D) The Pampas - The primary border between the US and Mexico.

204. What is the most appropriate definition of "Paradiplomacy" in the context of the Americas?
(A) Strategic diplomacy conducted primarily by highly trained paratrooper units.
(B) Relations conducted by sub-national entities like US and Mexican states.
(C) International relations that are formally and completely suspended by the state.
(D) Diplomacy strictly and exclusively mediated by the various United Nations agencies.

205. Identify the correct statement regarding nationalism in Canada.
(A) It is defined heavily by a singular and unified linguistic identity for all citizens.
(B) It involves seeking aggressive territorial expansion into the United States.
(C) Managing duality between English and French-speaking identities.
(D) It completely and totally rejects all forms of multiculturalism within the state.

206. Which internal threat heavily undermines state building by substituting state welfare with illicit community funding?
(A) Multinational corporations
(B) International NGOs
(C) The World Bank
(D) Narco-philanthropy and cartel social programs

207. Which of the following best demonstrates a "Cause-Effect" relationship in the Americas?
(A) Cold War caused US backing of dictatorships to suppress leftist movements.
(B) High levels of socio-economic inequality led directly to the formation of NAFTA.
(C) The construction of the Panama Canal directly caused the American Revolution.
(D) Widespread deforestation in the Amazon caused the start of the Cuban Revolution.

208. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The "Pink Tide" governments universally implemented strict neoliberal economic policies.
Statement II: The "Pink Tide" governments sought to increase state intervention in the economy and reduce inequality.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

209. What is a "Choke Point" in geopolitical terms, relevant to the Americas?
(A) A permanent diplomatic stalemate occurring within the Organization of American States.
(B) Narrow, strategic geographic feature for significant maritime traffic.
(C) A landlocked country's international border with its neighboring nations.
(D) A high-altitude mountain pass located within the central Andes mountain range.

210. Which is NOT an impact of globalization on the Americas?
(A) Complete eradication of domestic poverty
(B) Amplified vulnerability to global financial crises
(C) Increased interconnectedness of civil society movements
(D) Integration into global supply chains

211. Which conceptual framework suggests that US hegemony in the Americas is maintained

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through institutions, culture, and ideology rather than just military force?
(A) Realism
(B) Isolationism
(C) Cultural Hegemony
(D) Neoclassical Economics

212. In the context of democratization, what does "Democratic Consolidation" mean?
(A) The consolidation and merging of all political parties into one single entity.
(B) The national military taking permanent control of the state's electoral process.
(C) The drafting and implementation of a brand-new national constitution every year.
(D) Process by which a democracy matures, making reversion to authoritarianism unlikely.

213. Identify the incorrect statement concerning US-Cuba relations.
(A) The US imposed a trade embargo on Cuba following the Cuban Revolution.
(B) The Helms-Burton Act strengthened the US embargo.
(C) Full diplomatic relations have never been restored at any point in the 21st century.
(D) The US maintains a naval base at Guantanamo Bay.

214. What constitutes a "Strategic Partnership" in contemporary inter-American relations?
(A) A formal and public declaration of war against a specific third-party nation.
(B) Long-term, comprehensive bilateral agreement for multifaceted cooperation.
(C) A temporary ceasefire agreement signed between two warring regional factions.
(D) The complete and total merging of two national and sovereign economies.

215. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: Extractive institutions established during colonialism hindered long-term economic development.
Statement II: Inclusive institutions promote broad-based economic participation and secure property rights.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

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216. Which external threat is associated with the depletion of marine resources in the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) of South American nations?
(A) Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing by distant-water fleets.
(B) Local artisanal fishing conducted by small communities along the coastlines.
(C) Rising ocean temperatures causing shifts in the distribution of marine species.
(D) Caribbean pirate syndicates operating within international waters near the region.

217. A core objective of the "Alliance for Progress" was to:
(A) Establish a US monopoly on Latin American oil.
(B) Relocate indigenous populations.
(C) Promote land reform and democratic governance.
(D) Dismantle the OAS.

218. Which concept explains the spread of democratic transitions across Latin America in the 1980s?
(A) The Third Wave of Democratization
(B) Domino Theory
(C) The Washington Consensus
(D) The Pink Tide

219. Identify the correct pair of a contemporary geopolitical challenge and its primary region in the Americas.
(A) Falklands Dispute - A maritime conflict located within the central Caribbean Sea.
(B) Deforestation of the Amazon - An environmental issue primarily in North America.
(C) Northern Triangle Gang Violence - A security issue within the Southern Cone.
(D) Darien Gap Migration Crisis - Border of Colombia and Panama.

220. Which is NOT considered a mechanism of regional development cooperation?

mobilized to demand answers about their "disappeared" children.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

240. Which is NOT a recognized benefit of regional trade agreements?
(A) Increased market size and economies of scale.
(B) Complete loss of national cultural identity.
(C) Enhanced political cooperation.
(D) Attraction of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).

241. The term "Banana Republic" was originally coined to describe countries primarily located in which sub-region?
(A) The Southern Cone
(B) Central America
(C) The Caribbean
(D) North America

242. In analyzing global supply chains, nearshoring to the Americas by US companies is primarily a response to:
(A) Response to geopolitical tensions and vulnerabilities exposed during disruptions.
(B) A collective desire by corporations to increase their total shipping and logistics costs.
(C) The total and complete lack of any available labor forces within the Asian continent.
(D) A specific and mandatory legal mandate issued by the United Nations assembly.

243. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the demographic challenges of state building.
(A) Integrating geographically isolated populations was a major challenge for the state.
(B) Rapid population growth and the development of massive urban slums in major cities.
(C) Urbanization happened slowly and uniformly across the entire hemisphere.
(D) Indigenous rights movements challenging traditional and homogenous state narratives.

244. What was the primary geopolitical goal of the US "Containment" policy in the Americas during the Cold War?
(A) Containing the spread of various forms of European colonialism in the region.
(B) Containing and limiting the physical borders of the nation of Mexico.
(C) Preventing all forms of Latin American industrialization and economic growth.
(D) Preventing the spread of Soviet influence and communist ideology.

245. Which of the following represents a successful example of resolving a regional conflict through international mediation?
(A) The resolution of the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis between global superpowers.
(B) The 1989 United States military invasion of the nation of Panama.
(C) The resolution of the Beagle Channel dispute between Chile and Argentina.
(D) The ongoing and unresolved territorial claim over the South Atlantic Falkland Islands.

246. Which theory argues that international institutions like the OAS can foster cooperation in the Americas?
(A) Classical Realism
(B) Neoliberal Institutionalism
(C) Marxism
(D) Constructivism

247. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: Climate change acts as a "threat multiplier" in the Americas, exacerbating issues like food scarcity and migration.
Statement II: The Caribbean nations are among the least vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is

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230. Which is NOT a recognized impact of the US-led "War on Terror" on Latin America?
(A) Shift in US security funding toward counter-terrorism globally.
(B) The US launching a massive ground invasion of South America.
(C) Increased border security and scrutiny of financial flows.
(D) The framing of certain regional insurgent groups as terrorists.

231. The concept of "Mestizaje" refers to:
(A) The physical and geological geography of the central Andes mountain range.
(B) The economic policy of import substitution industrialization used in the region.
(C) The strategic military doctrine employed by the historical Spanish Empire.
(D) Cultural and biological blending of European and Indigenous peoples.

232. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: Remittances sent by migrants working in the US constitute a significant portion of the GDP for several Central American nations.
Statement II: Remittances are a form of official government foreign aid.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

233. Which regional organization was heavily criticized by Latin American leftist governments as being an instrument of US policy?
(A) UNASUR
(B) MERCOSUR
(C) OAS (Organization of American States)
(D) CARICOM

234. What is the most appropriate term for a government where power is concentrated in a small group not constitutionally accountable to the public?
(A) Authoritarianism
(B) Liberal Democracy
(C) Federalism
(D) Decentralization

235. Which country experienced a severe political and economic crisis in the late 2010s, resulting in millions of refugees?
(A) Uruguay
(B) Costa Rica
(C) Canada
(D) Venezuela

236. Identify the correct pair of a geopolitical concept and its definition.
(A) Buffer State - A state that constantly wages war.
(B) Hegemon - A state that exercises dominant influence over others in a system.
(C) Choke Point - A wide open expanse of ocean.
(D) Bipolarity - A system dominated by a single superpower.

237. Which of the following is a structural cause of regional conflicts in the Americas?
(A) Mutual and peaceful agreement on all regional territorial claims between nations.
(B) The achievement of complete and total economic equality for all citizens.
(C) Ill-defined colonial borders inherited by newly independent states.
(D) The total and absolute lack of any natural resources within the region.

238. What is the primary focus of Critical Security Studies when applied to the Americas?
(A) Focusing solely on the comparison of military troop and personnel numbers.
(B) Advocating for the acquisition of more strategic nuclear weapons for defense.
(C) Ignoring the role and impact of all non-state actors in international relations.
(D) Shifting focus from the state to the individual and human security.

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239. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The "Dirty War" in Argentina involved state terrorism against political dissidents.
Statement II: Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo

254. What must regional actors prioritize to ensure sovereign integrity due to the geostrategic setting?
(A) Active global peacekeeping and humanitarian operations
(B) Internal socioeconomic and legislative reforms
(C) Trans-oceanic offensive and naval capabilities
(D) Maritime alliances and border demarcations

255. The passage concludes that the geopolitical and geostrategic setting isolates the region from what?
(A) Escalating internal political and civil uprisings
(B) Regional hemispheric diplomatic and military alignments
(C) Immediate pressures from other global theatres
(D) Securing naval and aerial approaches to the region

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

A critical historical case study within the Americas highlights the intricate transition from colonialism to the emergence of nationalism, culminating in protracted independence movements. In this academic scenario, a subjugated territory experiences a paradigm shift when the economic extraction inherent in colonialism begins to foster localized resentments. These grievances coalesce into a cohesive regional nationalism, superseding previous tribal or provincial identities. The structural rigidities of colonialism unintentionally provided the administrative frameworks that early nationalist leaders repurposed to mobilize populations. As nationalism intensified, it transitioned from intellectual discourse to armed independence movements, targeting colonial administrative centers. The trajectory from colonialism to independence movements was not linear but marked by ideological schisms regarding the future political structure of the newly liberated zones. This case demonstrates that the initial spark for independence movements was primarily a reaction against the economic monopolization characteristic of colonialism, rather than a purely ideological awakening. Consequently, the newly forged nationalism had to reconcile diverse social strata united temporarily by their opposition to external rule. Analyzing this transition reveals that the success of these independence movements depended heavily on synthesizing anti-colonial sentiments with an inclusive, though often fragile, framework of shared national identity.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

256. What was the primary initial spark for independence movements in the described scenario?
(A) A purely ideological and philosophical awakening
(B) Reaction against colonial economic monopolization
(C) Establishing new tribal and provincial identities
(D) Direct interference from extra-regional powers

257. According to the passage, what did regional nationalism supersede as it coalesced?
(A) Established economic extraction and trade models
(B) Existing colonial administrative and legal frameworks
(C) Ongoing intellectual and philosophical discourses
(D) Previous tribal or provincial identities

258. What unintended consequence of colonialism did early nationalist leaders utilize?
(A) Formal colonial administrative frameworks
(B) Diverse social and cultural strata
(C) Complex ideological and political schisms
(D) Deep-seated localized grievances and resentments

259. What marked the trajectory from colonialism to independence movements, making it non-linear?
(A) A complete lack of any intellectual discourse
(B) Immediate economic prosperity for liberated zones
(C) Ideological schisms about political structures
(D) Continuous support from the former colonial power

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correct.

248. Which is NOT considered a defining element of a State?
(A) A single official religion
(B) A permanent population
(C) Defined territory
(D) Capacity to enter into relations with other states

249. In the context of globalization, the "Washington Consensus" primarily benefited which actors?
(A) Traditional subsistence farmers working in rural agricultural regions.
(B) Various indigenous communities living within their ancestral territories.
(C) Transnational capital and domestic economic elites.
(D) Organized labor unions representing workers across different industrial sectors.

250. Which overarching concept best captures the historical transition of the Americas from fragmented colonial territories to modern integrated actors?
(A) State Building and Hemispheric Integration.
(B) The political pursuit of irredentism to reclaim lost national territories.
(C) The implementation of absolute and total isolationism from global affairs.
(D) The systematic devolution of power from national to local regional authorities.

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In analyzing the Americas, researchers frequently observe a distinct geopolitical and geostrategic setting shaped by vast territorial expanses and oceanic boundaries. A hypothetical strategic assessment of the hemisphere reveals how maritime access dictates vulnerability and power projection. The geostrategic setting of this landmass inherently creates a division between northern and southern tiers, influencing security architectures. By evaluating the geopolitical dynamics, analysts note that control over maritime choke points and resource-rich hinterlands forms the crux of strategic planning. In a specific regional scenario, the placement of military assets directly corresponds to the geostrategic setting, prioritizing coastal defense and hemispheric isolation from trans-oceanic threats. This geopolitical configuration mandates a security approach where terrestrial dominance is secondary to securing naval and aerial approaches. The geostrategic setting thus forces regional actors to prioritize maritime alliances and border demarcations to ensure sovereign integrity. Consequently, the geopolitical setting of the Americas operates as a definitive constraint on military mobility, demanding strategic adaptations to geographic realities. Such a scenario underscores that the fundamental geopolitical and geostrategic setting remains the primary determinant of defense postures and diplomatic alignments across the entire continental divide, effectively isolating the region from immediate continental pressures found in other global theatres.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

251. According to the passage, what primarily dictates vulnerability and power projection in the Americas?
(A) The abundance of terrestrial resources
(B) The level of maritime access
(C) The presence of transnational alliances
(D) The size of internal security forces

252. How does the geostrategic setting influence the placement of military assets in the described scenario?
(A) Prioritizing coastal defense and isolation
(B) Focusing on deep inland defensive fortifications
(C) Emphasizing aggressive terrestrial military dominance
(D) Abandoning border demarcations and security entirely

253. What forms the crux of strategic planning according to the geopolitical dynamics noted by analysts?
(A) Management of urban centers and industrial zones
(B) Domination of trans-oceanic trade and agreements
(C) Control of maritime points and hinterlands
(D) Expansion of continuous terrestrial military bases

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(A) Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) loans
(B) Imposition of unilateral tariffs
(C) Technical assistance programs
(D) Technology and knowledge transfer agreements

221. The "Big Stick" ideology is most closely associated with which US President's foreign policy?
(A) Woodrow Wilson
(B) Jimmy Carter
(C) Theodore Roosevelt
(D) John F. Kennedy

222. What was the central issue in the "Beagle Conflict"?
(A) A dispute over trade tariffs occurring between the United States and Canada.
(B) A conflict over the international conservation of the Beagle dog breed.
(C) A major naval battle occurring between the historical British and Spanish fleets.
(D) Territorial dispute between Argentina and Chile over Beagle Channel islands.

223. Evaluate the following statements and choose the correct option:
Statement I: The "War on Drugs" has significantly militarized domestic law enforcement in several Latin American countries.
Statement II: The militarization of law enforcement has completely eradicated drug trafficking.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

224. Which Latin American integration initiative emphasizes a "Bolivarian" ideology?
(A) Pacific Alliance
(B) ALBA
(C) USMCA
(D) MERCOSUR

225. A student notes that Latin American economies often suffer when global commodity prices drop. This is a direct effect of:
(A) Complete autarky
(B) High levels of primary export dependency
(C) Over-industrialization
(D) Excessive foreign aid

226. Which of the following best defines a "Failed State" in the context of state-building challenges?
(A) A state whose system is so weak that the government is no longer in control.
(B) A state that failed to qualify for the international FIFA World Cup tournament.
(C) A state that operates a strictly controlled and centralized command economy.
(D) A state that peacefully and successfully transitions to a new national government.

227. Which extra-regional power has historically utilized strategic sites in Cuba to monitor the US?
(A) Great Britain
(B) France
(C) Soviet Union/Russia
(D) India

228. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the geostrategic importance of the Arctic to North America.
(A) It provides new shipping routes due to melting ice.
(B) It holds significant untapped natural resources.
(C) Canada views the Northwest Passage as its internal waters.
(D) It is entirely claimed and controlled by the United States.

229. What was the primary effect of the Enlightenment on the Americas?
(A) It reinforced the traditional divine right of all European monarchs to rule.
(B) It completely and totally outlawed the practice of slavery immediately.
(C) Provided the intellectual foundation for independence and republicanism.
(D) It halted all forms of scientific exploration and discovery in the New World.

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260. The success of the independence movements heavily depended on synthesizing anti-colonial sentiments with what?
(A) A fragile framework of shared national identity
(B) Exclusive tribal and regional governance structures
(C) A renewed system of colonial economic extraction
(D) Strict and isolationist national economic policies

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Following political emancipation, emerging territories in the Americas faced the dual and often conflicting imperatives of nation building and state building. In a theoretical regional case, administrators prioritize state building by establishing formal institutions, bureaucratic hierarchies, and coercive apparatuses to ensure territorial control. Concurrently, nation building requires cultivating a shared cultural identity, historical narrative, and psychological cohesion among fragmented demographic groups. The scenario illustrates a fundamental tension: the rapid consolidation of administrative power required for state building frequently alienates minority groups, thereby undermining the inclusive ethos necessary for effective nation building. Analysts observing this transition note that while state building focuses on the infrastructural and legal frameworks of governance, nation building addresses the emotional and civic loyalty of the populace. When state building outpaces nation building, the resulting political entity may possess strong borders and taxation systems but lack internal legitimacy. Conversely, prioritizing nation building without adequate state building leads to profound institutional weakness, leaving the administration incapable of enforcing laws or delivering services. Therefore, a synchronized approach to nation building and state building is essential, as the enduring stability of these emergent entities relies on balancing structural administrative capacity with deep-rooted civic solidarity.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

261. How does the passage define the primary focus of state building?
(A) Cultivating a shared cultural and regional identity
(B) Addressing the emotional and civic loyalty of people
(C) Forming psychological cohesion between demographics
(D) Formal institutions and bureaucratic hierarchies

262. What is a consequence of state building outpacing nation building?
(A) Institutional weakness and inability to provide services
(B) Strong borders and taxes but no internal legitimacy
(C) A perfectly synchronized and unified civic solidarity
(D) Immediate resolution of complex historical narratives

263. According to the scenario, what frequently undermines the inclusive ethos necessary for effective nation building?
(A) The establishment of shared historical narratives
(B) The psychological cohesion of demographic groups
(C) The rapid consolidation of administrative power
(D) The delivery of public services

264. Prioritizing nation building without adequate state building leads to which of the following?
(A) Overwhelming internal legitimacy and strong borders
(B) Highly efficient and centralized taxation systems
(C) Rapid and successful territorial expansion projects
(D) Institutional weakness and inability to enforce laws

265. What conclusion does the passage draw regarding the relationship between nation building and state building?
(A) A synchronized approach to capacity and solidarity
(B) Nation building should always precede state building

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(C) State building is more important than nation building
(D) They are mutually exclusive and pursued separately

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

In evaluating contemporary political frameworks in the Americas, structural challenges to democratization frequently emerge in post-authoritarian scenarios. A specific case analysis reveals that challenges to democratization are often rooted in entrenched institutional legacies and socioeconomic disparities. When a transitional government attempts to implement democratic norms, it encounters systemic resistance from traditional elites who perceive egalitarian reforms as a threat to their historical privileges. These challenges to democratization are exacerbated by institutional weaknesses, where newly formed electoral bodies lack the capacity to prevent voter disenfranchisement or political intimidation. Furthermore, the scenario highlights how severe economic inequality functions as a primary obstacle, as marginalized populations prioritize immediate material survival over abstract political participation, thus stalling the democratic transition. Analysts observe that challenges to democratization are not merely electoral but extend to establishing an independent judiciary and a free press. In this context, the persistence of patronage networks subverts democratic accountability, transforming procedural elections into mechanisms for consolidating existing power hierarchies. Consequently, overcoming challenges to democratization requires comprehensive systemic reform rather than just the periodic holding of elections, demanding sustained efforts to dismantle entrenched socio-political monopolies that continuously threaten to regress the state into authoritarianism.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

266. What group provides systemic resistance to transitional governments implementing democratic norms?
(A) Marginalized populations seeking democratic reforms
(B) Elites protecting historical privileges
(C) Newly formed and independent electoral bodies
(D) Members of the established independent judiciary

267. How does severe economic inequality stall the democratic transition in the described scenario?
(A) By forcing traditional elites to distribute their wealth
(B) By forcing a focus on survival over participation
(C) By making the regional electoral bodies overly powerful
(D) By accelerating the establishment of a free press

268. According to the passage, the persistence of patronage networks results in what outcome?
(A) Elections used to consolidate power hierarchies
(B) The rapid expansion of inclusive egalitarian reforms
(C) The successful establishment of an independent judiciary
(D) The immediate eradication of all institutional legacies

269. What do challenges to democratization extend to, beyond just electoral issues?
(A) Prioritizing immediate and basic material survival
(B) Defending against extra-regional military threats
(C) Establishing a judiciary and free press
(D) Maintaining traditional and socio-economic monopolies

270. Overcoming challenges to democratization requires which of the following?
(A) The periodic holding of procedural elections only
(B) Maintaining the privileges of traditional elites
(C) Ensuring that economic inequality remains stable
(D) Systemic reform to dismantle monopolies

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Within the security discourse of the Americas, researchers often distinguish between traditional state security and broader concepts of human

security, particularly concerning internal threats. An analytical scenario of a regional crisis demonstrates how internal threats severely compromise both frameworks simultaneously. In this case, domestic insurgencies and organized criminal syndicates bypass the conventional military apparatus, directly targeting civilian populations and civil infrastructure. This internal destabilization highlights that while state security focuses on territorial integrity and regime survival, human security emphasizes the protection of individuals from chronic threats like violence, displacement, and severe economic deprivation. The scenario reveals a governance paradox: aggressive militarized responses designed to neutralize internal threats to state security frequently result in collateral damage that drastically diminishes human security. As internal threats escalate, the state's inability to maintain a monopoly on the legitimate use of force creates localized power vacuums. Consequently, analyzing this dynamic shows that internal threats must be addressed through a paradigm that integrates human security metrics, recognizing that purely coercive state security measures often exacerbate societal fractures and fail to resolve the root socio-economic grievances driving domestic instability and widespread civilian vulnerability.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

271. How do domestic insurgencies and criminal syndicates primarily operate in the described scenario?
(A) By engaging solely with conventional military forces
(B) By prioritizing territorial integrity and regime survival
(C) Bypassing the military to target civilians
(D) By resolving localized and socio-economic grievances

272. What does state security primarily focus on according to the passage?
(A) Protection of individuals from chronic threats
(B) Territorial integrity and regime survival
(C) Resolving socio-economic grievances
(D) Preventing severe economic deprivation

273. What governance paradox is revealed in the scenario?
(A) Enhancing human security leads to state security failure
(B) Insurgencies protect infrastructure better than the state
(C) Localized power vacuums increase the state's monopoly
(D) Militarized responses often diminish human security

274. What happens when the state cannot maintain a monopoly on the legitimate use of force?
(A) Localized power vacuums are created.
(B) Purely coercive measures become entirely successful.
(C) Human security is immediately stabilized.
(D) Domestic insurgencies automatically dissolve.

275. The passage suggests that addressing internal threats requires a paradigm that integrates what?
(A) Purely coercive state security measures
(B) Expanded collateral damage
(C) Human security metrics
(D) The strengthening of organized criminal syndicates

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Expanding the security analysis of the Americas involves evaluating how external threats interact with both state security and human security frameworks. In a specific geopolitical scenario, external threats manifest not solely through direct military invasion, but via asymmetric coercion, cyber intrusions, and trans-border resource exploitation. These external vectors compromise state security by undermining sovereign decision-making and infiltrating critical national infrastructure. However, the academic case further illustrates that such external threats have profound, cascading impacts on human security. When a foreign entity manipulates a state's economic stability or orchestrates cyber disruptions, the immediate consequences are felt by the civilian population through disrupted public services, economic volatility, and compromised personal data. This dynamic emphasizes that external threats blur the traditional boundary

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between defending state borders and protecting human well-being. Strategists note that state security doctrines reliant exclusively on border fortification are inadequate against external threats that permeate digital and economic borders. Therefore, countering these external threats requires a comprehensive defense posture that explicitly aligns state security mechanisms with human security objectives, ensuring that diplomatic and strategic responses actively insulate the civilian populace from external coercive pressures and transnational disruptions.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

276. In the given scenario, how do external threats primarily manifest other than direct military invasion?
(A) Via asymmetric coercion and cyber intrusions
(B) Only through conventional naval and sea blockades
(C) By resolving internal and socioeconomic disparities
(D) Through the promotion of a local cultural identity

277. How do external vectors specifically compromise state security?
(A) By reinforcing sovereign and legal decision-making
(B) By enhancing critical and national infrastructure
(C) By targeting border and fortification mechanisms
(D) By undermining sovereignty and infrastructure

278. What are the immediate consequences for civilians when a foreign entity manipulates economic stability or orchestrates cyber disruptions?
(A) Immediate wealth accumulation and enhanced privacy
(B) Disrupted services and economic volatility
(C) Strengthened borders and reduced asymmetric coercion
(D) The stabilization of state governance mechanisms

279. Why are state security doctrines reliant exclusively on border fortification considered inadequate?
(A) Because borders are no longer politically relevant
(B) Because human well-being does not require state protection
(C) Because external threats permeate digital and economic borders
(D) Because trans-border resource exploitation strengthens local economies

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280. What type of defense posture is required to counter these modern external threats effectively?
(A) One focusing on military border fortification
(B) One that separates state security from human security
(C) One that invites trans-border resource exploitation
(D) One that aligns state and human security

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

An examination of regional conflicts and issues in the Americas necessitates an analysis of the prominent role of the US in shaping diplomatic and military outcomes. In a hypothetical case of a localized territorial dispute between two hemispheric neighbors, the role of the US is characterized by strategic intervention and mediation. The scenario demonstrates that regional conflicts are rarely contained locally; instead, they trigger US involvement driven by the objective of maintaining hemispheric stability. The role of the US frequently oscillates between acting as a neutral diplomatic arbiter and deploying asymmetric economic leverage to compel conflict resolution. This interventionist posture regarding regional issues indicates that US strategic interests are deeply entwined with the geopolitical equilibrium of the entire continent. Analysts evaluating this case observe that the role of the US can sometimes escalate regional conflicts if its involvement is perceived as unilateral or misaligned with multilateral consensus. Consequently, managing regional issues requires acknowledging that the role of the US acts as a definitive variable, capable of either accelerating peaceful settlements through diplomatic coercion or inadvertently prolonging

disputes by altering the balance of power among the primary regional combatants.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

281. What is the primary driver of US involvement in localized regional conflicts according to the scenario?
(A) The objective of maintaining hemispheric stability
(B) The desire to extract resources from the combatants
(C) The goal of escalating military hostilities permanently
(D) The need to test new cyber-security infrastructure

282. How does the role of the US frequently oscillate in these disputes?
(A) Between complete isolationism and full military invasion
(B) Between neutral arbitration and economic leverage
(C) Between prioritizing global trade and regional politics
(D) Between supporting criminal syndicates and local police

283. Under what circumstance can the role of the US escalate regional conflicts?
(A) When it acts in alignment with multilateral consensus
(B) When involvement is unilateral or misaligned
(C) When it provides equal economic leverage to combatants
(D) When it completely withdraws from the hemisphere

284. What does the interventionist posture of the US indicate about its strategic interests?
(A) They are entwined with continental equilibrium
(B) They are detached from continental equilibrium
(C) They are limited to its immediate physical borders
(D) They are focused solely on cultural integration

285. The passage concludes that the role of the US acts as a definitive variable capable of what?
(A) Only prolonging disputes without any potential resolution
(B) Removing the need for any local governance structures
(C) Accelerating or inadvertently prolonging disputes
(D) Forcing extra-regional powers to mediate all conflicts

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

While historical analyses of regional conflicts and issues in the Americas often prioritize hemispheric actors, contemporary scenarios highlight the increasing role of extra-regional powers. An academic case study of a modern regional issue reveals how the injection of foreign direct investment and military partnerships by extra-regional powers fundamentally alters the local strategic balance. In this scenario, two neighboring states engaged in a protracted resource dispute seek external patronage. The involvement of extra-regional powers transforms localized regional conflicts into proxy arenas for broader global competition. The role of extra-regional powers complicates dispute resolution, as these external actors introduce competing diplomatic frameworks and alternative economic lifelines that reduce the reliance on traditional hemispheric mechanisms. Strategists note that managing such regional issues is highly challenging because extra-regional powers prioritize their own global strategic positioning over local stability. Consequently, the penetration of extra-regional powers into the region requires existing security architectures to adapt to multi-polar influences. The case concludes that resolving regional conflicts is no longer a strictly internal hemispheric affair, as the pervasive role of extra-regional powers mandates complex, globally-oriented diplomatic negotiations to neutralize external exacerbation of local disputes.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

286. What mechanisms do extra-regional powers inject into the region that alter the local strategic balance?
(A) Multilateral consensus and historical

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institutional development in post-colonial states. These systems were designed to benefit a small elite and the colonial power rather than fostering broad-based economic growth or inclusive governance. Overcoming these entrenched structures remains a major challenge for many nations in the Americas.

27. (D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Regional organizations in the Americas serve various political and economic purposes. The USMCA updated trade relations in North America, while ALBA was formed as a socialist alternative led by Venezuela and Cuba. UNASUR focuses on South American political integration, and CARICOM promotes economic cooperation among Caribbean nations. These groups reflect the diverse strategies used to foster regional cooperation and development.

28. (B) Thousand Days' War - Argentina and Brazil
The Thousand Days' War was a civil conflict that took place within Colombia, not a war between Argentina and Brazil. Other regional conflicts, such as the Chaco War and the War of the Pacific, involved territorial disputes between neighboring states. Understanding the nature and participants of these historical wars is crucial for analyzing the evolution of modern national boundaries in Latin America.

29. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.
The Washington Consensus actually promoted market-oriented reforms and deregulation, moving away from state-led industrialization models. Structural Adjustment Programs, often mandated by international financial institutions, required countries to implement austerity measures and cut public spending to address debt crises. These policies fundamentally reshaped the economic landscape of Latin America during the late twentieth century, often leading to significant social debate.

30. (D) Manifest Destiny
Manifest Destiny was a nineteenth-century belief that the United States was divinely ordained to expand its territory across the North American continent. This ideology provided a moral and political justification for westward expansion, including the annexation of Texas and the acquisition of western lands. It profoundly influenced American foreign policy and the displacement of indigenous populations during this era.

31. (A) I, II, and IV only
United States strategy in the Americas involves maintaining naval dominance in the Caribbean and securing the Panama Canal as a vital transit route. Historically, the Roosevelt Corollary justified military interventions to ensure regional stability. While the US promoted democracy, its Cold War policy often prioritized anti-communist stability over supporting leftist movements, reflecting a realist approach to hemispheric security.

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32. (B) A politically unstable country dependent on exporting limited resources.
A banana republic is a term used to describe a politically unstable country whose economy is largely dependent on the export of a single limited-resource product, such as bananas or minerals. These nations are often characterized by significant social inequality and a high degree of influence from foreign corporations. The term highlights the vulnerability of states with undiversified, export-led economies.

33. (B) Assessing the impact of gang violence on displacement and migration.
Analyzing human security involves assessing threats that directly impact the safety and well-being of individuals. In the Americas, investigating the relationship between transnational gang violence and the resulting displacement of populations is a key competency. This approach looks beyond state-level military concerns to understand how systemic violence and insecurity drive migration and affect the daily lives of citizens.

34. (A) China
China has used vaccine diplomacy and infrastructure loans as strategic tools to expand its influence and counter United States hegemony in Latin America. By providing essential medical supplies during crises and financing major development projects, China has built significant political and economic leverage. This proactive engagement reflects a broader geostrategic effort

(C) To dismantle shared regional infrastructural projects
(D) To increase economic and institutional disparities

293. What is the consequence of having regional trade alone without robust development cooperation?
(A) It stabilizes regional and domestic economies perfectly
(B) It aligns macroeconomic and trade policies automatically
(C) It transforms geographic proximity into mutual benefit
(D) Economic disparities and institutional friction

294. What does a successful strategic partnership require, according to the observing analysts?
(A) A rejection of synchronized regulatory standards
(B) Commitment to shared projects and standards
(C) Complete deregulation of all local regional markets
(D) The deliberate creation of external market volatilities

295. The synthesis of regional trade and development cooperation within a strategic partnership transforms geographic proximity into what?
(A) Deeply entrenched socio-political monopolies
(B) Proxy arenas for broader global competition
(C) Enduring economic integration
(D) Severe and widespread regional economic inequality

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

The phenomenon of globalisation and its impact on the Americas presents a complex scenario of economic integration and socio-cultural transformation. In an academic assessment of a region adapting to transnational flows, the impact of globalisation is primarily observed through the rapid deregulation of localized markets and the influx of foreign capital. This scenario demonstrates that globalisation significantly accelerates industrial modernization but concurrently dismantles traditional, localized economic structures. The impact of globalisation is not uniform; while urban centers integrated into global supply chains experience rapid wealth accumulation, peripheral agricultural zones suffer from the sudden exposure to international market competition. Furthermore, the analysis of globalisation and its impact highlights a profound cultural dimension, where transnational media networks challenge indigenous cultural narratives, leading to localized movements seeking to preserve regional identity. Strategists evaluating this case note that the state's capacity to manage the impact of globalisation dictates its domestic stability. Governments must implement adaptive regulatory frameworks that harness the economic velocity of globalisation while mitigating its socially disruptive consequences. Consequently, navigating globalisation demands a calibrated policy approach that balances the benefits of global connectivity with the imperative of protecting vulnerable domestic sectors.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

296. How is the impact of globalisation primarily observed in the described regional assessment?
(A) Strengthening of traditional economic structures
(B) Through the complete isolation of urban centers
(C) Strict enforcement of localized agricultural practices
(D) Rapid deregulation and influx of foreign capital

297. What unequal economic impact of globalisation is highlighted in the scenario?
(A) Urban wealth vs. peripheral agricultural suffering
(B) Peripheral zones modernize while urban centers collapse
(C) Both urban and rural areas share equally in foreign capital
(D) Global supply chains focus exclusively on rural zones

298. What is the profound cultural dimension of globalisation mentioned in the passage?
(A) Assimilation of all indigenous cultures into one identity
(B) Media challenging narratives and identity preservation

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9. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
The American Revolution began in 1775, predating the French Revolution of 1789. The Haitian Revolution remains historically unique as the only successful uprising by enslaved people that resulted in the establishment of an independent state. These events were deeply influenced by Enlightenment ideals and collectively signaled the beginning of the end for European colonial empires in the Western Hemisphere.

10. (A) Expanding European territorial holdings
Post-colonial state-building in Latin America focused on establishing internal authority and developing national infrastructure. Success required creating a centralized bureaucracy and a monopoly on the legitimate use of force within recognized borders. Expanding European territorial holdings was contrary to these goals, as the primary aim was to secure independence and foster a distinct national identity.

11. (D) I and III only
Military coups and the historical influence of caudillismo, or rule by charismatic strongmen, have frequently interrupted democratic development in Latin America. These factors undermined institutional stability and prevented the consistent application of the rule of law. Conversely, extreme economic inequality has typically served as a source of instability rather than a stabilizing force for regional democratic regimes.

12. (B) A state where institutions are significantly influenced by powerful drug cartels.
A narco-state describes a country where government institutions and the rule of law are significantly compromised by the influence of powerful drug trafficking organizations. In such cases, illicit proceeds are often used to corrupt officials, manipulate elections, and maintain territorial control. This phenomenon poses a severe internal threat to state security and hinders the development of transparent governance.

13. (C) Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso)
The Shining Path was a Maoist insurgent group that launched a violent campaign against the Peruvian state during the 1980s and 1990s. Its objective was to overthrow the government and establish a revolutionary regime. The conflict resulted in significant loss of life and displacement, representing one of the most severe challenges to internal security in South American history.

14. (D) Argentine military invasion of British-controlled islands.
The Falklands War was sparked in 1982 when the Argentine military invaded the British-controlled islands in the South Atlantic. Argentina claimed sovereignty over the territory, which it calls the Malvinas. The conflict ended with a British military victory, but the dispute remains a significant issue in Argentine foreign policy and continues to influence regional diplomatic relations today.

15. (A) I, III, and V only
China and Russia have significantly expanded their influence in Latin America through economic investments and strategic partnerships. The Belt and Road Initiative has facilitated Chinese infrastructure projects, while Russia maintains ties with nations like Cuba and Venezuela. These extra-regional powers often use economic aid and military cooperation to gain political leverage and challenge traditional United States dominance.

16. (B) Promotion of free trade, privatization, and market deregulation.
Neoliberalism in Latin America refers to a set of economic policies that prioritize market-driven growth through privatization, deregulation, and the removal of trade barriers. These reforms, often part of structural adjustment programs, aimed to integrate regional economies into global markets. While intended to stimulate growth, they frequently led to increased socio-economic inequality and triggered significant domestic political resistance.

17. (B) A shift towards left-wing and center-left governments
The Pink Tide describes a significant political shift in the early twenty-first century when several Latin American countries elected left-wing or center-left governments. These leaders often prioritized social welfare programs, poverty reduction, and a more assertive stance against United States influence. This movement reflected

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ANSWERS

1. (B) Monroe Doctrine
The Monroe Doctrine established a foundational principle of American foreign policy by asserting that the Western Hemisphere was no longer open to European colonization. Issued during a period of independence movements in Latin America, it aimed to prevent further imperial intervention. This policy reflected the growing influence of the United States and its desire for regional hegemony.

2. (A) The Panama Canal connects the Atlantic and Pacific oceans as a critical maritime choke point.
The Panama Canal serves as a vital maritime artery connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, drastically reducing travel time for global trade. Its strategic location makes it a critical chokepoint for international shipping and naval operations. Control and maintenance of this waterway are essential for regional economic stability and the geopolitical interests of major world powers.

3. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Roosevelt Corollary expanded the scope of the Monroe Doctrine by asserting that the United States could intervene in Latin American nations to prevent European influence. This policy led to numerous military interventions and diplomatic pressures throughout the early twentieth century. It established a precedent for exercising international police power to ensure regional stability and protect American economic interests.

4. (D) It granted Brazil to the Spanish Empire.
The Treaty of Tordesillas was a 1494 agreement that divided newly discovered lands outside Europe between Portugal and Spain. Mediated by the Pope, it established a longitudinal line in the Atlantic Ocean. While most of the Americas fell under Spanish control, the line's placement eventually allowed Portugal to claim the territory that became modern-day Brazil.

5. (C) Encomienda
The Encomienda system was a labor structure established by the Spanish Crown to regulate Native American work and provide a steady labor force for colonists. In exchange for protection and religious instruction, indigenous people were forced to provide labor or tribute. This system frequently resulted in severe exploitation and had a profound impact on the demographic makeup of colonial societies.

6. (B) Jose de San Martin - Argentina and Chile
Jose de San Martin was a pivotal figure in the South American wars of independence, leading successful campaigns to liberate Argentina, Chile, and Peru. His military strategy involved crossing the Andes, a feat that fundamentally shifted the balance of power against Spanish colonial forces. He is celebrated as a national hero across the Southern Cone for his leadership and vision.

7. (D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Different revolutionary leaders shaped the political landscape of the Americas through diverse movements. Toussaint Louverture led the Haitian Revolution, while Miguel Hidalgo initiated the Mexican struggle for independence. Fidel Castro was central to the Cuban Revolution in the twentieth century, and George Washington led the American Revolution. These figures represent the varied paths taken toward national sovereignty and self-determination.

8. (A) Jamaica - Netherlands
Jamaica was initially colonized by the Spanish but was later captured and ruled by the British Empire for centuries before gaining independence. It did not have a primary colonial relationship with the Netherlands. Understanding the specific colonial origins of Caribbean nations is essential for analyzing their linguistic, cultural, and political development within the broader context of the Western Hemisphere.

NODIA

narratives
(B) Traditional hemispheric mechanisms and border controls
(C) Democratic norms and egalitarian reforms
(D) Foreign direct investment and military partnerships

287. What happens to localized regional conflicts when extra-regional powers become involved?
(A) They are immediately resolved through neutral arbitration
(B) They revert to pre-colonial tribal and regional disputes
(C) They transform into proxy arenas for global competition
(D) They are contained strictly within local national borders

288. How do alternative economic lifelines introduced by extra-regional powers affect dispute resolution?
(A) They strengthen reliance on traditional mechanisms
(B) They reduce reliance on traditional mechanisms
(C) They simplify the diplomatic and negotiation process
(D) They automatically ensure local economic equality

289. What do strategists note is the priority of extra-regional powers when managing regional issues?
(A) Establishing an independent judiciary locally
(B) Ensuring local stability above all else
(C) Strengthening existing regional security architectures
(D) Their own global strategic positioning

290. According to the conclusion of the case, resolving regional conflicts now requires what approach?
(A) Complex, globally-oriented diplomatic negotiations
(B) Strictly internal hemispheric negotiations
(C) Complete isolation from global markets
(D) Prioritization of purely military border fortification

Direction : Please read the following source carefully.

Economic integration in the Americas heavily relies on the triadic framework of regional trade, development cooperation, and strategic partnership. A theoretical economic scenario illustrates how these elements function interdependently to stabilize regional economies. In this case, a coalition of states establishes a multilateral agreement where regional trade acts as the primary engine for capital accumulation. However, to ensure equitable growth, the agreement institutionalizes development cooperation, mandating resource transfers and capacity-building initiatives for the structurally weaker economies within the bloc. This synthesis of regional trade and development cooperation is further solidified by a strategic partnership that aligns their broader macroeconomic policies against external market volatilities. The scenario demonstrates that regional trade alone, without robust development cooperation, exacerbates economic disparities, leading to institutional friction. Conversely, when guided by a comprehensive strategic partnership, economic exchanges become mechanisms for collective resilience. Analysts observing this framework conclude that a successful strategic partnership requires a binding commitment to shared infrastructural projects and synchronized regulatory standards. Ultimately, the synergy between regional trade and development cooperation within a formal strategic partnership is critical for transforming geographic proximity into enduring, mutually beneficial economic integration across the continent.

Based on the above source, attempt the following five questions.

291. In the triadic framework described, what acts as the primary engine for capital accumulation?
(A) Institutional friction
(B) Extra-regional patronage
(C) Regional trade
(D) External market volatilities

292. What is the stated purpose of institutionalizing development cooperation within the multilateral agreement?
(A) Equitable growth for weaker economies
(B) To maximize external market and trade volatilities

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a regional desire for alternatives to neoliberal economic models and greater focus on social equity.

18. (A) It included the United States, Canada, and Mexico.
The North American Free Trade Agreement was a landmark economic pact between the United States, Canada, and Mexico that removed most tariffs on goods traded between them. It aimed to create a more integrated regional market and increase economic competitiveness. While it stimulated trade and investment, it also sparked debates regarding its impact on labor standards and domestic agriculture.

19. (A) III, IV, I, II
Regional history is marked by significant events that shaped the current geopolitical landscape. The Monroe Doctrine was established in 1823, followed by the US-Mexican War in the 1840s. The Cuban Revolution fundamentally altered Cold War dynamics in 1959. Finally, the signing of the North American Free Trade Agreement in the 1990s represented a shift toward regional economic integration.

20. (D) Mexico
MERCOSUR is a South American trade bloc established to promote free trade and the fluid movement of goods, people, and currency. Its founding and full members include Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay. Mexico is an observer state but not a full member, as its primary economic integration is centered on North American trade agreements with the United States.

21. (C) Human Security
Human security is a people-centered framework that focuses on protecting individuals from chronic threats such as hunger, disease, and repression. Unlike traditional national security, which focuses on territorial integrity, human security emphasizes the well-being and safety of citizens. This approach addresses the root causes of instability, including poverty, environmental degradation, and systemic violence within a state's borders.

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22. (B) Only South American countries are eligible for membership.
The Organization of American States is the world's oldest regional organization, bringing together nations from across the entire Western Hemisphere. While its headquarters is in Washington, D.C., membership is open to all independent states in both North and South America. Its primary goals include promoting regional cooperation, defending democratic institutions, and facilitating the peaceful resolution of various diplomatic disputes.

23. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Globalization has produced complex and varied economic results across Latin America. While integrating nations into the global marketplace has increased trade and foreign investment, it has also exacerbated existing income disparities. This uneven distribution of benefits often leads to social tensions, demonstrating that economic integration does not automatically result in equitable development for all segments of society.

24. (A) Mexico
Mexico shares a nearly 2,000-mile land border with the United States, making it the primary point of contact between the two nations. This border is a critical zone for trade, migration, and security cooperation. The complex relationship between the two countries is shaped by their geographic proximity, shared history, and the continuous flow of goods and people across the frontier.

25. (C) Sea Power - Alfred Thayer Mahan
Alfred Thayer Mahan was a prominent naval strategist whose work emphasized the importance of sea power for national greatness and global influence. His theories significantly influenced United States foreign policy and the expansion of its naval capabilities in the late nineteenth century. This strategic focus was essential for securing maritime trade routes and projecting power across the Atlantic and Pacific.

26. (A) The legacy of extractive economic institutions and social stratification.
The legacy of extractive economic institutions and rigid social stratification established during the colonial era significantly hindered

(C) Restriction of media networks by localized movements
(D) The elimination of any need for a regional identity

299. According to strategists, what dictates a state's domestic stability in the face of globalisation?
(A) Its ability to entirely reject foreign capital
(B) Its capacity to manage the impact of globalisation
(C) The speed at which it dismantles industrial modernization
(D) The successful elimination of all localized economic structures

300. Navigating globalisation demands a policy approach that balances global connectivity with what imperative?
(A) Protecting vulnerable domestic sectors
(B) Eliminating all adaptive regulatory frameworks
(C) Maximizing socially disruptive consequences
(D) Expanding peripheral agricultural zones into international markets completely

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to secure resources and establish long-term partnerships in the region.

35. (C) I, III, IV, and V only
Globalization has accelerated the movement of goods and capital while facilitating the global reach of transnational criminal organizations. It has influenced culture through both homogenization and resistance and has challenged the traditional absolute sovereignty of nation-states. However, it did not eradicate informal economies, which continue to represent a significant portion of the workforce in many Latin American countries.

36. (D) Portugal
The Portuguese Crown utilized the captaincies system to administer its sprawling territory in South America, which eventually became Brazil. This administrative structure involved granting large tracts of land to private individuals, known as donataries, who were responsible for settling and defending the territory. This decentralized approach shaped the early colonial development and land distribution patterns in the Portuguese Empire.

37. (C) Influence of Enlightenment ideas and the success of the Atlantic revolutions.
The Latin American independence movements were deeply influenced by the spread of Enlightenment ideals, such as liberty and equality. The success of the American and French Revolutions provided a powerful example for regional leaders seeking to overthrow colonial rule. These intellectual and political shifts, combined with the weakening of European empires, created the conditions necessary for widespread revolutionary action.

38. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
The Good Neighbor Policy, initiated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, aimed to improve relations with Latin American nations through a policy of non-intervention and non-interference. It represented a significant shift away from the military interventions of previous decades. It did not involve the annexation of Caribbean islands, as the goal was to foster regional cooperation and mutual respect.

39. (D) The Great Lakes
While the Great Lakes are a vital interior waterway for North American trade, they are not considered a traditional geostrategic maritime chokepoint like the Panama Canal. Chokepoints are narrow passages through which significant international shipping must pass. Examples in the Americas include the Strait of Magellan and the Straits of Florida, both of which are critical for ocean-going transit.

40. (A) Rule by charismatic, populist military leaders or strongmen.
Caudillismo refers to a system of political-military leadership where power is held by charismatic strongmen, or caudillos. This phenomenon was common in post-independence Latin America, where weak institutional structures allowed military leaders to gain popular support through populism and patronage. Caudillos often ruled through personal authority rather than formal democratic processes, significantly influencing the political trajectory of the region.

NODIA

41. (C) Resource nationalism
Resource nationalism occurs when a state asserts greater control over its natural resources, often through increased taxation of foreign firms or the nationalization of strategic sectors like energy and mining. This approach aims to ensure that a larger share of resource wealth benefits the domestic economy and strengthens state sovereignty. It reflects a desire to reduce dependence on multinational corporations.

42. (A) Cyber warfare and the spread of disinformation.
Modern external threats to state security include the use of cyber warfare and the spread of disinformation to interfere in national elections and undermine democratic processes. These covert activities, often conducted by foreign intelligence agencies, target a nation's political stability and public trust. Addressing these digital threats has become a critical priority for maintaining sovereign integrity and institutional security.

43. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The United States imposed a comprehensive economic embargo on Cuba following the

revolution led by Fidel Castro. This action was prompted by the nationalization of American-owned properties and Cuba's growing strategic alignment with the Soviet Union during the Cold War. The embargo remains a central and highly debated element of United States foreign policy toward the island nation today.

44. (B) Its total success in permanently eradicating regional poverty.
The Alliance for Progress was a major initiative launched by President John F. Kennedy to foster economic cooperation and prevent the spread of communism in the Americas. While it aimed to reduce poverty and promote democratic development through financial aid, it was not a total success and failed to permanently eradicate regional poverty or achieve all its goals.

45. (C) Mayans - Guatemala and Southern Mexico.
The Mayan civilization flourished in the tropical lowlands of what is now Guatemala, Belize, and southern Mexico. Known for their advanced mathematics, astronomy, and architecture, the Mayans developed a complex network of city-states. Understanding the geographic locations of major indigenous civilizations is essential for analyzing the historical and cultural foundations of modern states in the Western Hemisphere.

46. (D) Forced labor system used primarily in silver mining.
The Mita system was a mandatory public service labor requirement used by the Spanish colonial administration, most notably in the silver mines of Potosi. Indigenous communities were required to provide a certain number of workers for hazardous labor in the mines. This system was critical for the colonial economy but caused immense suffering and demographic decline among the native population.

47. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
Regional organizations in the Americas were established at different times to address changing political and economic needs. The Organization of American States was founded in 1948, followed by MERCOSUR in 1991. NAFTA took effect in 1994 to integrate North American markets, while UNASUR was created in 2008 to promote South American political integration. These dates mark key milestones.

48. (B) Evo Morales - Colombia
Evo Morales was the first indigenous president of Bolivia, serving for over a decade, and is not associated with the government of Colombia. Other figures, like Hugo Chavez of Venezuela and Augusto Pinochet of Chile, were central to their respective countries' political histories. Identifying correct associations between leaders and nations is vital for understanding regional political movements and ideologies.

49. (B) Demographic pressures and land disputes triggering armed conflict.
The 1969 Football War between El Salvador and Honduras was triggered by social and economic tensions, including land reform issues and demographic pressures. While a series of soccer matches served as the immediate catalyst for the conflict, the underlying causes were deeply rooted in long-standing regional disputes. This event illustrates how domestic socio-economic challenges can escalate into international military conflict.

50. (A) Precedent for containment leading to US Cold War interventions.
The Truman Doctrine established the principle of containment to stop the spread of communism, which became the guiding framework for United States foreign policy during the Cold War. This doctrine directly influenced regional dynamics in the Americas, as the US intervened in Latin American affairs to prevent the establishment of leftist governments perceived as aligned with the Soviet Union.

51. (C) I, III, and IV only
Post-independence states in the Americas often adopted colonial administrative boundaries and faced the significant challenge of integrating diverse indigenous populations. Economies remained largely dependent on the export of primary commodities, a legacy of the colonial system. Furthermore, federalism was not uniformly adopted and was frequently a source of intense political conflict between centralists and federalists.

52. (D) Transnational gang violence and organized crime.
Transnational gang violence and organized crime represent the most significant internal threats

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to human security in the Northern Triangle countries of Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. These groups exert territorial control, engage in widespread extortion, and drive high rates of homicide. The resulting insecurity is a primary driver of migration and displacement throughout the region and toward North America.

53. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
The Contadora Group was a diplomatic initiative launched in the 1980s by Mexico, Colombia, Panama, and Venezuela to promote peace and stability in Central America during various civil wars. It sought a negotiated regional solution independent of superpower interference. It was not a military alliance and did not support the US invasion of Grenada, which occurred separately during that period.

54. (B) Economic theory advocating replacing imports with domestic production.
Import Substitution Industrialization is an economic policy that advocates for replacing foreign imports with domestic production to reduce a country's dependency on industrialized nations. By using protective tariffs and state subsidies, governments aimed to foster local manufacturing and achieve economic self-sufficiency. This model was widely adopted across Latin America during the mid-twentieth century with mixed long-term results.

55. (D) I, III, and IV only
United States policy in the Americas has included major initiatives like Plan Colombia to fight drug trafficking and the Merida Initiative for regional security. Historically, the US supported Operation Condor, a campaign of political repression by South American dictatorships. However, the US did intervene in Chilean politics, and diplomatic relations with Cuba have been frequently severed and contested since 1959.

56. (A) Fostering South American integration independent of US influence.
UNASUR was established to promote South American integration and political cooperation independent of United States influence. By creating a regional forum that excluded North American powers, South American nations sought to address common challenges and coordinate policies more effectively. This initiative reflected a broader trend toward regionalism and the desire for a more autonomous voice in global affairs.

57. (C) France
France intervened in Mexico during the 1860s, establishing a short-lived empire and placing Maximilian I on the throne as emperor. This intervention was prompted by Mexico's suspension of foreign debt payments and the desire of Napoleon III to expand French influence in the Americas. The empire eventually collapsed, leading to the restoration of the Mexican Republic under Benito Juarez.

58. (A) Resources flowing from a poor "periphery" to a wealthy "core."
Dependency theory argues that the global economic system is structured so that resources flow from a poor, underdeveloped periphery to a wealthy, industrialized core. This relationship enriches the core at the expense of the periphery, perpetuating underdevelopment in poorer nations. Developed by Latin American scholars, this theory emphasizes that economic issues are often the result of international structural inequalities.

59. (A) II, I, III, IV
Significant milestones in hemispheric history began with Haitian independence in 1804, followed by Brazil's independence in 1822. The Spanish-American War in 1898 marked the rise of the United States as a regional power and the end of Spanish colonial rule in the Caribbean. Finally, the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis represented the height of Cold War tensions in the Western Hemisphere.

60. (B) Social hierarchy was egalitarian and lacked racial stratification.
Colonial society in the Americas was characterized by a rigid social hierarchy and intense racial stratification. Status was largely determined by ethnic origin, with European-born individuals at the top. This system was far from egalitarian and established long-standing social and economic inequalities. The collapse of indigenous populations and the arrival of

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enslaved Africans further shaped the complex demographic landscape.

61. (C) Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the Mexican-American War in 1848, resulting in Mexico ceding nearly half of its territory to the United States. This massive acquisition included land that became several western states, significantly expanding American territory and influence. The treaty fundamentally altered the borders of North America and remains a pivotal event in the history of both nations.

62. (D) Hemispheric political cooperation and dispute resolution.
Regional organizations in the Americas, most notably the Organization of American States, focus on promoting hemispheric political cooperation and providing mechanisms for dispute resolution. These bodies aim to defend democratic institutions, protect human rights, and foster regional solidarity. By creating forums for dialogue, they help manage tensions and coordinate efforts on common challenges such as security and economic development.

63. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Amazon Basin is of immense global geostrategic importance due to its role as a massive carbon sink and its unparalleled biodiversity. It contains the world's largest rainforest and a significant portion of its fresh water. Protecting this region is critical for global climate stability, making its management a subject of intense international concern and regional political importance.

64. (B) Institutional erosion and centralization of executive power.
Contemporary Venezuela faces severe challenges to democratization due to the erosion of independent institutions and the heavy centralization of executive power. The weakening of the judiciary and the legislature has undermined checks and balances, leading to political instability. These factors, combined with economic collapse, have significantly hindered the possibility of holding fair and transparent democratic processes within the country.

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65. (B) Extreme vulnerability to climate change and rising sea levels.
Caribbean island states face a structural external threat from climate change, particularly rising sea levels and more frequent, intense hurricanes. Their geographic position and small landmasses make them exceptionally vulnerable to environmental disruptions that can devastate national economies and infrastructure. This vulnerability necessitates international cooperation and significant investment in climate adaptation and resilience strategies for the region.

66. (A) Free-market policies prescribed by the IMF and World Bank.
The Washington Consensus refers to a set of free-market economic policies prescribed by international institutions like the IMF and the World Bank for developing countries. These policies emphasized privatization, trade liberalization, and fiscal discipline to address economic crises. While widely implemented in Latin America, they remain controversial due to their social impacts and mixed results in achieving sustainable growth.

67. (C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Different doctrines have defined United States policy in the Americas over time. Manifest Destiny justified territorial expansion, while the Monroe Doctrine opposed European colonialism. The Roosevelt Corollary asserted the right to intervene as an international police power. In contrast, the Good Neighbor Policy emphasized non-intervention in the domestic affairs of Latin American nations, reflecting a shift in diplomatic approach.

68. (D) Argentina - Silk and spices
The colonial economy of Argentina was primarily based on cattle ranching and the export of hides and salted meat, not silk and spices. Other regions had distinct primary exports, such as silver from Potosi, sugar from Brazil, and rum from the Caribbean. These commodity-based economies established patterns of trade and land ownership that influenced regional development for centuries.

69. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
The Zapatista Army of National Liberation (EZLN) launched an uprising in Chiapas, Mexico, on January 1, 1994, the same day NAFTA took effect. The movement demanded greater rights for indigenous people and vocally opposed neoliberal globalization, which they argued would harm rural communities. The EZLN brought international attention to the challenges faced by marginalized indigenous populations in the era of global trade.

70. (B) Eradication of all regional trade blocs
Globalization has led to increased foreign investment, the rise of transnational supply chains, and enhanced cultural exchange. However, it has not resulted in the eradication of regional trade blocs; instead, many such blocs, like MERCOSUR and the Pacific Alliance, have been strengthened to better navigate global markets. These regional agreements remain essential tools for coordinating economic policy in an interconnected world.

71. (D) I, II, and IV only
The Pacific Alliance, including Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru, focuses on free trade and economic integration to enhance global competitiveness. Similarly, partnerships with China have largely centered on infrastructure and raw material extraction. In contrast, MERCOSUR is primarily an economic trade bloc rather than a military alliance. These various partnerships reflect different strategic priorities for regional states.

72. (A) Nation building
Nation building is the process of constructing a shared national identity and a sense of belonging among a country's diverse population. This involves creating common symbols, narratives, and institutions that transcend local or ethnic loyalties. In newly independent countries, nation building is essential for fostering internal cohesion and ensuring the long-term stability and legitimacy of the state.

73. (C) Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor
The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 triggered the immediate entry of the United States into World War II and fundamentally altered hemispheric security. This event led most Latin American nations to align with the Allies, fostering unprecedented regional military and economic cooperation. It established the United States as the undisputed leader of a unified Western Hemisphere security architecture.

74. (A) Ability of a government to administer territory and enforce rules.
State capacity refers to the ability of a government to effectively administer its territory, enforce laws, and provide essential public services. It is a measure of how well state institutions can implement policies and maintain order. High state capacity is a prerequisite for stable governance and economic development, while weak capacity often leads to instability and the rise of non-state actors.

75. (D) I, II, IV, and V only
Human security in the Americas is impacted by environmental degradation from extractive industries and the historical focus of structural adjustment programs on economic rather than human concerns. The flow of arms from the north exacerbates regional violence, and climate change poses a major threat to agricultural security. Human trafficking also remains a significant and pervasive challenge across the entire hemisphere.

76. (B) Geopolitical boundary drawing against European powers.
The Monroe Doctrine served as a geostrategy for drawing a boundary against European interference in the Western Hemisphere. By declaring that the Americas were no longer open to colonization, the United States aimed to protect its own interests and those of newly independent nations. It established a framework for regional security that prioritized the exclusion of extra-regional powers from political affairs.

77. (C) Bolivia
Bolivia adopted a new constitution in 2009 that formally recognized the country as a "plurinational" state. This recognition acknowledges the existence of multiple indigenous nations within the country and grants them specific rights and autonomy. This shift reflects a major political movement to include indigenous populations in the state-building

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112. (B) Scheduled the transfer of the Panama Canal to Panamanian control.
The Carter-Torrijos Treaties, signed in 1977, established the framework for the gradual transfer of the Panama Canal from United States to Panamanian control. This agreement resolved a long-standing point of contention and recognized Panamanian sovereignty over the canal zone. The final transfer took place on December 31, 1999, fundamentally changing the geostrategic landscape and improving relations throughout the Americas.

113. (B) Currency overvaluation making other sectors less competitive globally.
Dutch Disease occurs when a massive increase in revenue from a single natural resource leads to an overvalued currency, making other economic sectors like manufacturing and agriculture less competitive globally. This phenomenon can result in a lack of economic diversification and increased vulnerability to price fluctuations in the global market. It remains a significant challenge for many resource-rich nations in South America.

114. (A) The International Monetary Fund (IMF)
The International Monetary Fund has played a highly controversial role in Latin America by prescribing austerity measures and structural adjustment programs in exchange for loans during economic crises. Critics argue these policies often harmed the poor and prioritized debt repayment over social welfare. Proponents, however, maintain that they were necessary for macroeconomic stabilization and restoring investor confidence in regional economies.

115. (C) I, II, IV, and V only
Democratic backsliding is characterized by the gradual erosion of institutions, often led by elected officials who consolidate power. This process typically involves weakening the judiciary, harassing independent media, and undermining democratic norms. Unlike a sudden military coup, backsliding is a slow deterioration from within that makes it difficult to detect and counter, posing a major threat to contemporary regional governance.

116. (D) Iron fist security policies using police and military against gangs.
"Mano Dura," or "Iron Fist," policies involve the use of heavy-handed military and police force to combat gang violence and organized crime, particularly in Central America. These strategies often prioritize incarceration and aggressive enforcement over social prevention or rehabilitation. While sometimes popular for addressing immediate security concerns, they have been criticized for leading to human rights abuses and failing to address root causes.

117. (C) Toussaint Louverture - Led an anti-slavery revolution
Toussaint Louverture was a former enslaved man who became the preeminent leader of the Haitian Revolution, the first successful anti-slavery rebellion that led to an independent state. His leadership was instrumental in defeating colonial powers and challenging the global institution of slavery. Louverture remains a symbol of resistance and liberation, having significantly influenced revolutionary movements across the entire Western Hemisphere.

118. (B) It completely erased indigenous languages across the hemisphere.
Globalization has led to the spread of American cultural products and the global popularity of Latin American music and literature. It has also created hybrid cultural forms that blend local and global elements. However, while some languages are endangered, globalization has not completely erased indigenous languages, many of which continue to be spoken and have even found new platforms for revitalization.

119. (D) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
When announced in 1823, the Monroe Doctrine could not be effectively enforced by the relatively small United States military. Instead, it initially relied on the implicit support of the British Royal Navy, which shared the goal of preventing other European powers from re-colonizing the Americas. Over time, as American power grew, the US became capable of enforcing the doctrine independently.

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86. (B) Peaceful transfer of power between opposing political parties.
A critical indicator of successful democratization is the peaceful transfer of power between opposing political parties following an election. This demonstrates that all actors accept the democratic rules of the game and that institutions are strong enough to manage political competition. Such transfers are essential for the long-term consolidation of democracy and the prevention of authoritarian regression within a state.

87. (D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
Key events in hemispheric history occurred across several centuries. Haiti gained independence in 1804, while the Panama Canal was completed in 1914. The Organization of American States was established in 1948 to promote regional cooperation. Finally, the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 represented a critical moment in Cold War history, bringing the world to the brink of nuclear conflict.

88. (A) Westward expansion achieved entirely through peaceful purchases.
Westward expansion in the United States was not achieved entirely through peaceful purchases; it involved significant military conflict and the systematic, often violent, displacement of Native American tribes. While some land was acquired through treaties or sales, much was taken through war and forced relocation. Understanding this complex history is essential for analyzing the foundation and growth of the American state.

89. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the Mexican-American War and resulted in Mexico ceding a massive portion of its territory to the United States. Shortly after, the Gadsden Purchase involved the US buying additional land from Mexico to facilitate a southern transcontinental railroad route. These two events finalized the modern southern border of the United States and expanded its continental reach.

90. (A) Internal Colonialism
Internal colonialism describes a situation where a dominant group within a country exploits and marginalizes other groups, often indigenous communities, in a manner similar to external colonial rule. Despite national independence, these communities frequently face systemic exclusion from political power and economic resources. This concept helps explain the enduring social and economic disparities that persist in many post-colonial states in the Americas.

91. (D) I and III only
During the Cold War, the United States utilized the CIA to influence and sometimes overthrow foreign governments to prevent the spread of communism. Economic sanctions have also been a major tool, used extensively against regimes in Cuba and Venezuela. While the US often uses regional organizations like the OAS, it cannot unilaterally dictate policies, as member states maintain their own sovereign interests.

92. (B) Strengthening of the rule of law
Transnational organized crime in the Americas leads to high homicide rates, widespread corruption of state officials, and increased human trafficking. These illicit activities undermine the authority of the state and erode the rule of law. Rather than strengthening institutions, organized crime creates alternative power structures that challenge the state's monopoly on force and its ability to protect its citizens.

93. (C) Liberalism and Enlightenment ideals
Nationalist movements in nineteenth-century Latin America were primarily driven by the ideals of liberalism and the Enlightenment. Leaders sought to establish independent republics based on principles of popular sovereignty, individual rights, and the rule of law. These ideologies provided the intellectual framework for challenging colonial authority and for building new national identities separate from the various European empires.

94. (D) Focus on poverty reduction, social programs, and resource nationalism.
Pink Tide governments in Latin America were characterized by their focus on reducing poverty through social welfare programs and increasing state control over natural resources. These left-leaning administrations sought to address the social inequalities exacerbated by previous neoliberal reforms. While their specific policies varied by country, they collectively represented

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by their reliance on primary commodities, such as copper from Chile, oil from Venezuela, and sugar from Cuba. These export patterns highlight the challenge of economic diversification for many nations in the Western Hemisphere.

129. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
The Organization of American States suspended Cuba's membership in 1962 due to its alignment with the Soviet Union and its efforts to export revolution. This suspension lasted for several decades until it was formally lifted in 2009. While the suspension was removed, Cuba has not sought to rejoin the organization, reflecting the enduring ideological divisions between the island nation and the OAS.

130. (A) Nationalizing the banking sector
Neoliberalism promotes free-market policies such as privatization, trade liberalization, and deregulation to reduce the state's role in the economy. Nationalizing the banking sector is the opposite of neoliberalism, as it involves increasing state ownership and control over a critical part of the financial system. Such state-led actions are typically associated with socialist or populist economic models rather than neoliberal reforms.

131. (C) I, II, and IV only
During the Cold War, the United States intervened in several Latin American nations to prevent the perceived spread of communism, including the Dominican Republic in 1965 and Grenada in 1983. The US also backed the 1973 military coup in Chile that overthrew Salvador Allende. In contrast, the US opposed the Sandinistas in Nicaragua during the 1980s, supporting the counter-revolutionary Contras instead.

132. (D) A state dependent on a more powerful state.
A client state is a nation that is economically, politically, or militarily dependent on a more powerful state, often in exchange for security or financial support. In the context of inter-American relations, this term has been used to describe countries that closely align their foreign and domestic policies with the interests of a dominant power, such as the United States.

133. (C) CARICOM
The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) is a regional organization specifically created to foster economic integration and cooperation among Caribbean nations. It aims to create a single market and economy, coordinate foreign policy, and promote functional cooperation in areas like health and education. CARICOM provides a collective voice for smaller island states to address common challenges such as climate change and economic development.

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134. (B) Armed insurgency and cartels controlling territory.
Armed insurgencies and drug cartels challenge state-building by asserting territorial control and creating alternative centers of power within a state's borders. By providing services or protection to local populations, these non-state actors undermine the legitimacy and authority of the central government. This fragmentation of sovereignty makes it difficult for the state to enforce laws and maintain a monopoly on the legitimate use of force.

135. (D) I, II, and IV only
The Americas are geostrateically significant due to the presence of advanced economies in the north and vast strategic mineral reserves, such as lithium and copper, in the south. The geographic isolation provided by the Atlantic and Pacific oceans serves as a strategic buffer. In contrast, the Darien Gap is a roadless barrier, and control of the Caribbean remains vital for maritime security.

136. (A) Monroe Doctrine
The Roosevelt Corollary was a significant addition to the Monroe Doctrine, announced by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1904. It stated that the United States would intervene in Latin American nations experiencing chronic instability or failure to pay debts to prevent European powers from doing so. This policy transformed the Monroe Doctrine from a defensive stance into an active justification for American military interventionism.

137. (C) Paradox where resource-abundant countries have worse development outcomes.
The Resource Curse describes a paradox where countries with an abundance of natural resources, such as oil or minerals, tend to experience slower economic growth and worse development outcomes. This can be caused by

controversial element of American foreign policy in the Western Hemisphere for decades.

104. (A) Neocolonialism
Neocolonialism refers to a situation where a powerful nation or foreign corporations exercise significant economic and political influence over a theoretically independent state. This is often achieved through control of key industries, debt, and trade agreements that favor the interests of external actors. Neocolonialism allows for the continued exploitation of resources and labor without the need for formal, direct territorial annexation.

105. (C) Conflicts over land rights and resource extraction on territories.
Globalization has often led to intense conflicts between indigenous communities and multinational corporations over land rights and resource extraction. As global demand for minerals and agricultural products increases, development projects frequently infringe upon ancestral territories. These disputes highlight the tension between national economic growth and the protection of indigenous sovereignty, cultural heritage, and environmental sustainability across the entire Americas.

106. (A) Critical maritime crossroads for trade and naval power projection.
The geopolitical vulnerability of Caribbean island states is largely a result of their position as critical maritime crossroads for international trade and naval power projection. This strategic location makes them susceptible to external pressures from major powers seeking to control or secure these vital waterways. Their security is thus inextricably linked to the broader maritime interests and rivalries of extra-regional and regional actors.

107. (D) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3
Different types of threats impact the Americas in distinct ways. State security is challenged by cartel infiltration of government institutions, while human security is threatened by the lack of clean water for marginalized groups. Environmental threats include the massive deforestation of the Amazon rainforest. Finally, economic threats are exemplified by severe capital flight and hyperinflation, which destabilize national markets.

108. (B) It requires all members to adopt the US dollar.
The Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA) is a regional integration project based on socialist principles, intended to counter US-led trade initiatives. It was founded by Venezuela and Cuba and emphasizes social welfare and cooperation. It does not require its members to adopt the United States dollar; in fact, it has explored using alternative regional currencies for trade.

109. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
The "Lost Decade" refers to the 1980s in Latin America, a period marked by severe debt crises, stagnant growth, and high inflation. To address these issues, many countries were required to undergo painful economic reforms and structural adjustment programs under the guidance of the International Monetary Fund. The crisis was a major turning point that led to significant shifts in regional economic policy.

110. (D) Establishing Latin America as a global nuclear superpower
Primary United States strategic interests in Latin America include managing geographic proximity, securing access to resources, and controlling narcotics trafficking and immigration. These factors are central to American national security and economic prosperity. Establishing Latin American nations as global nuclear superpowers is not a goal of US policy; rather, the US has supported regional efforts to maintain a nuclear-weapon-free zone.

111. (A) I, III, and IV only
Latin America has seen brief military conflicts like the Cenepa War and diplomatic resolutions like the Pope-mediated Beagle Conflict. The Organization of American States provides mechanisms for the peaceful settlement of such disputes. While border tensions exist, they have rarely escalated into full-scale, prolonged wars in the twenty-first century, as regional states generally prefer diplomatic and institutional channels for resolution.

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a regional movement toward more inclusive economic development and social justice.

95. (A) I, II, III, and V only
China is a leading trade partner for many South American countries, while the European Union focuses on trade and environmental standards. Russia exerts influence through arms sales and strategic partnerships, and the Non-Aligned Movement, led by Cuba, was significant during the Cold War. These extra-regional actors engage in the hemisphere through diverse channels, though they do not block all US trade.

96. (B) Cuba
The Platt Amendment was a 1901 provision that established the terms of the United States' withdrawal from Cuba after the Spanish-American War. It granted the US the right to intervene in Cuban affairs and to maintain naval bases on the island, such as Guantanamo Bay. This amendment fundamentally shaped the asymmetrical relationship between the two nations for decades to come.

97. (B) Alliance for Progress
The Alliance for Progress was an economic initiative launched by President John F. Kennedy to foster regional cooperation and counter the appeal of communist ideology in Latin America. By providing financial aid for infrastructure and social programs, the US hoped to promote stable democratic development. This policy reflected a shift toward using economic development as a tool for achieving Cold War security.

98. (A) Armed conflict involving state forces, guerrillas, and paramilitaries.
Internal displacement in Colombia is primarily caused by decades of armed conflict involving state forces, leftist guerrilla groups, and right-wing paramilitaries. These factions have fought for territorial control, often targeting civilian populations to assert dominance or secure illicit resource routes. The resulting violence and insecurity have forced millions of people to flee their homes, creating one of the world's largest displaced populations.

99. (A) III, I, IV, II
Regional integration in the Americas has evolved through several key agreements. MERCOSUR was established in 1991, followed by the implementation of NAFTA in 1994. The left-leaning ALBA was formed in 2004 as an alternative to US-led initiatives. Most recently, the USMCA was signed to update North American trade relations, replacing NAFTA and reflecting modern economic and labor priorities.

100. (D) Guantanamo Bay - Southern tip of Florida
Guantanamo Bay is a United States naval base located on the southeastern coast of Cuba, not at the southern tip of Florida. It has been a site of significant geopolitical tension and serves as a strategic outpost for the US military in the Caribbean. Identifying the correct location of such strategic sites is essential for understanding regional security dynamics and historical diplomatic relations.

101. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
State-building involves the creation and strengthening of a country's institutional and administrative structures, such as the bureaucracy and the military. In contrast, nation-building is the process of forging a shared sense of identity and belonging among the population. Both processes are essential for the long-term stability and legitimacy of a sovereign country, though they address different societal needs.

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102. (B) Widespread access to universal basic income
Recognized challenges to human security in the Americas today include food insecurity caused by climate change, gender-based violence, and urban crime linked to drug trafficking. These issues directly threaten the safety and well-being of individuals. Widespread access to universal basic income would be a social welfare policy aimed at addressing poverty, rather than a threat to human security itself.

103. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
During the Cold War, the United States frequently supported authoritarian regimes in Latin America to ensure anti-communist stability. This policy prioritized containment of Soviet influence over the promotion of democratic governance, often leading to the backing of military juntas that suppressed domestic leftist movements. This approach was a central and

120. (A) Economic liberalization
Economic liberalization is the process of reducing state intervention in the economy and transitioning toward free-market policies. This often includes privatizing state-owned enterprises, deregulating industries, and lowering trade barriers. These reforms significantly impact state-building trajectories by shifting the government's role from a primary economic actor to a regulator, fundamentally altering the relationship between the state and the private sector.

121. (C) Fragmentation of the Spanish Empire into multiple independent states.
In the context of Latin America, the term "Balkanization" refers to the fragmentation of the Spanish Empire into numerous independent and often competing states following the wars of independence. This process prevented the creation of a single, unified Latin American nation, as envisioned by leaders like Simon Bolivar. The resulting geopolitical division shaped the regional landscape of diverse sovereign countries seen today.

122. (A) Direct military invasion by a unified European army.
Significant external threats to Latin American nations in the twenty-first century include transnational drug trafficking, cyber attacks, and illegal fishing by foreign fleets. These challenges transcend borders and require international cooperation. However, a direct military invasion by a unified European army is not considered a credible threat in the modern era, as regional security focus has shifted toward unconventional and transnational issues.

123. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Extreme economic inequality serves as a major structural challenge to democratization in Latin America. It often breeds social unrest and creates an environment where populist leaders can successfully appeal to marginalized groups by promising radical change. High levels of disparity also undermine public trust in democratic institutions, as many citizens feel that the political system primarily serves the interests of the elite.

124. (B) Peru
The Shining Path, or Sendero Luminoso, is a Maoist insurgent group that operated primarily in Peru. Its violent campaign in the 1980s and 1990s posed a major internal threat to the Peruvian state and resulted in tens of thousands of deaths. The capture of its leadership in the early 1990s significantly weakened the group, though its legacy continues to influence security policy.

125. (C) Major lender often securing loans with commodity exports.
China has become a major lender and trading partner for many Latin American countries, often securing its loans through agreements for future commodity exports like oil and minerals. This economic engagement provides China with significant strategic influence and access to essential resources. Unlike traditional lenders, Chinese financing often comes without the political or institutional conditions typically required by Western-led financial organizations.

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126. (D) Undisputed dominance and policing role of the United States.
Hegemonic Stability Theory suggests that regional or international peace is more likely when a single dominant power, or hegemon, maintains order and enforces rules. In the Western Hemisphere, the relative lack of inter-state wars during the twentieth century is often attributed to the undisputed dominance of the United States. As the regional hegemon, the US acted as a self-appointed policeman.

127. (A) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
United States foreign policy in the Americas has evolved through various strategies. Big Stick Diplomacy emphasized the threat of military force, while Dollar Diplomacy used private investment to further diplomatic goals. The Good Neighbor Policy promoted non-intervention, and the Alliance for Progress focused on economic growth to deter communism. Each approach reflected the specific geopolitical priorities of the era.

128. (B) Argentina - Microchips
Argentina's economy has historically been driven by agricultural exports such as beef, wheat, and soybeans, not the production of microchips. Other regional economies are also characterized

process and to address centuries of systemic marginalization and exclusion.

78. (D) The American Revolution was purely an indigenous uprising.
The American Revolution was led by colonists of European descent against the British Crown and was not primarily an indigenous uprising. In contrast, the Haitian Revolution was led by enslaved people of African descent. Movements in South America, led by figures like Simon Bolivar, sought independence for diverse populations while dealing with the power vacuum created by the Napoleonic Wars in Europe.

79. (C) A true but R is false.
The Rio Treaty is a mutual defense agreement among nations in the Americas, stating that an attack on one is an attack on all. However, the United States did not support Argentina during the Falklands War; instead, it provided intelligence and logistical assistance to the United Kingdom. This decision was seen by many Latin American nations as a violation of the treaty's principles.

80. (B) Using diplomatic institutions to constrain hegemony without confrontation.
Soft balancing involves using international institutions, diplomatic coalitions, and international law to constrain the power of a hegemon without resorting to direct military confrontation. In Latin America, nations often use regional organizations to coordinate policies and express collective opposition to certain United States initiatives. This strategy allows states to protect their sovereignty and interests in an asymmetrical power environment.

81. (B) The internal armed conflict in Colombia involving the FARC.
The internal armed conflict in Colombia, involving the state military, leftist guerrillas like the FARC, and right-wing paramilitaries, provides a clear example of the security challenges posed by non-state actors. This decades-long conflict centered on issues of land rights, political inclusion, and the illicit drug trade. It illustrates how internal insurgencies can undermine state sovereignty and deeply impact human security over time.

82. (A) Paraguay
Paraguay is a landlocked nation in South America and is a regional actor rather than an extra-regional power. Extra-regional powers refer to nations from outside the Western Hemisphere, such as the Soviet Union, France, and China, that have historically sought to influence political and economic dynamics in the Americas. Understanding the distinction between regional and extra-regional actors is key for geopolitical analysis.

83. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The implementation of NAFTA significantly restructured the Mexican agricultural sector as subsidized American farm products entered the market. This influx of cheaper goods often undercut local small-scale farmers, who could not compete with the industrialized agricultural production of the United States. This economic shift led to significant social changes and migration patterns within Mexico and across the border.

84. (D) Geographic direction of foreign policy and military planning.
Geostrategy is the geographic direction of a state's foreign policy and the planning of its military operations based on geographic factors. it involves analyzing how location, resources, and terrain influence national security and international relations. Geostrategic planning is essential for states to protect their interests, secure trade routes, and project influence within their regional and global spheres of operation.

85. (C) Operation PBSUCCESS (1954) - Guatemala
In 1954, the United States supported Operation PBSUCCESS, a covert action that led to the overthrow of the democratically elected government of Jacobo Arbenz in Guatemala. This intervention was driven by concerns over Arbenz's land reforms and perceived communist influence. It established a pattern of Cold War interventions where the US prioritized anti-communist stability over democratic governance in Latin America.

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volatile commodity prices, corruption, and the crowding out of other industrial sectors. Many nations in the Americas have struggled with this phenomenon, as resource wealth often fails to translate into broad-based prosperity.

138. (A) French is the primary official language of Jamaica.
English is the official language of Jamaica, reflecting its history as a British colony, while French is not spoken as a primary language there. Across the rest of the hemisphere, Spanish and Portuguese are dominant, though many indigenous languages like Quechua and Guarani remain widely used. Understanding these linguistic patterns is essential for analyzing the diverse cultural and historical identities of the Americas.

139. (A) III, I, IV, II
Cold War interventions followed a specific sequence, starting with the overthrow of Jacobo Arbenz in 1954 and the Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961. This was followed by the military coup in Chile in 1973. Later, in 1989, the United States launched Operation Just Cause in Panama. These events reflect the evolving strategies used by the US to manage regional security and influence.

140. (B) Contains a majority of lithium reserves critical for global battery production.
The "Lithium Triangle," spanning parts of Argentina, Bolivia, and Chile, contains more than half of the world's known lithium reserves. As the global demand for lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles and renewable energy storage grows, this region has become highly geostrateically significant. Controlling and developing these resources is a major priority for both regional governments and extra-regional powers seeking to secure supply chains.

141. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
MERCOSUR is a regional integration process established by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay to promote free trade and economic cooperation. Its primary goal is to create a common market and facilitate the movement of goods and services. It is not an exclusive military alliance against the United States, although it does aim to strengthen the collective bargaining power of its South American members.

142. (D) Direct military intervention
Soft power is the ability to influence others through attraction and persuasion rather than coercion or force. Examples include cultural exports, educational exchange programs like the Fulbright, and development projects funded by USAID. Direct military intervention is an exercise of hard power, as it involves the use of force to achieve political objectives, which is the opposite of the soft power approach.

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143. (C) A true but R is false.
The transition from military rule to democracy across Latin America in the 1980s is recognized as part of the "Third Wave" of global democratization. However, this transition did not coincide with immediate economic stability; instead, many countries were facing severe debt crises and high levels of inequality. The shift toward democracy was driven by political demands for rights and participation rather than widespread economic prosperity.

144. (B) Agro-export model
The agro-export model describes an economic structure where countries primarily export raw materials and agricultural products to industrialized nations in exchange for manufactured goods. This model, common in Latin America for much of its history, often led to economic dependency and vulnerability to global market fluctuations. It shaped land ownership patterns and social structures, often benefiting a small elite involved in the export sector.

145. (B) Anti-Americanism has been a potent component of some nationalisms.
Nationalism across the Americas is diverse, with anti-Americanism serving as a potent component in some Latin American national identities. In Canada, nationalism involves managing the duality between English and French-speaking identities, while the US often emphasizes notions of exceptionalism. Indigenous nationalism, rather than seeking assimilation, often focuses on reclaiming rights and autonomy within the framework of the modern nation-state.

structural barriers to equitable development in an interconnected world.

163. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The United States views China's growing economic influence in Latin America with strategic concern, particularly regarding investments in critical infrastructure like ports and telecommunications. There is apprehension that this economic leverage could be converted into geopolitical or military advantages for China. This rivalry has become a defining feature of contemporary inter-American relations, as both powers compete for influence and resource access.

164. (D) Political mobilization based on charismatic leadership appealing to the masses.
Populism in Latin America is characterized by charismatic leaders who mobilize large segments of the population, often through appeals to "the people" against a perceived corrupt elite. These leaders frequently use mass communication and direct appeals to bypass traditional political institutions. Populist movements have been both left- and right-wing and have significantly shaped the political landscape and economic policies of many regional states.

165. (C) Canada's trade reliance makes US-Canada relations asymmetrical but integrated.
The geostrategy of North America is defined by the high level of economic integration between the United States and Canada, which results in an asymmetrical but deeply interdependent relationship. Canada relies heavily on trade with the US, making the border a critical conduit for goods and services. This partnership is a cornerstone of regional stability and prosperity, characterized by extensive cooperation on security and environmental issues.

166. (B) Resistance against privatization of public utilities under neoliberal policies.
The 2000 "Water War" in Cochabamba, Bolivia, was a major social movement that protested the privatization of the city's municipal water supply under neoliberal policies. The protests forced the government to cancel the contract with a foreign-led consortium and return the utility to public control. This event serves as a powerful example of popular resistance against the privatization of essential public services in Latin America.

167. (D) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
Key political figures in the Americas are associated with diverse ideologies and policies. Hugo Chavez promoted "21st Century Socialism," while Augusto Pinochet implemented neoliberal reforms under a military dictatorship. Franklin D. Roosevelt is known for the Good Neighbor Policy, and Simon Bolivar is celebrated for his vision of Pan-Americanism and a united Gran Colombia. These figures illustrate the region's complex political history.

168. (A) Stimson Doctrine - Promoted immediate military intervention in South America
The Stimson Doctrine was a policy of non-recognition of states created by aggression and did not promote immediate military intervention in South America. Other doctrines like the Drago and Calvo Doctrines correctly reflect Latin American efforts to protect sovereignty against foreign intervention and debt collection. Understanding these legal and diplomatic principles is essential for analyzing the history of international relations in the Western Hemisphere.

169. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
Globalization has facilitated the rise of powerful transnational corporations (TNCs) that operate across borders in the Americas. While these corporations bring investment and technology, they are not always held strictly accountable to the environmental laws of host nations. This lack of accountability has led to significant environmental degradation and social conflict in many regions, particularly those where state regulatory capacity is weak.

170. (A) Rapid and uniform industrialization in the 19th century
The colonial legacy in Latin America includes concentrated land ownership, socio-racial hierarchies, and a dependence on primary commodity exports. These structures generally hindered rather than promoted rapid industrialization in the nineteenth century. Instead, most regional economies remained agricultural and extractive, and the process

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United States. The alliance provided Cuba with economic and military support while allowing the Soviets to challenge American hegemony. This relationship reached its height during the Cuban Missile Crisis, which remains a defining moment in twentieth-century global geopolitics.

155. (D) II, III, and IV only
United States policy toward democratization has been complex; during the Cold War, it often prioritized anti-communist stability, which led to support for right-wing dictatorships. In the post-Cold War era, policy has generally shifted toward supporting democratic institutions. Economic sanctions remain a frequently used tool to pressure authoritarian regimes, reflecting the ongoing use of diverse diplomatic and economic pressures to influence regional governance.

156. (B) People of Spanish descent born in the Americas
In Spanish colonial society, the term "Creole" referred to individuals of purely Spanish descent who were born in the Americas. While they were at the top of the local social hierarchy, they were often excluded from the highest administrative and ecclesiastical positions, which were reserved for Spanish-born "Peninsulares." this exclusion became a major source of grievance and a driver for the independence movements.

157. (C) Good Neighbor Policy
The Good Neighbor Policy marked a significant shift in United States foreign policy during the 1930s, as the government moved away from direct military interventions in Latin America. Initiated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, it emphasized mutual respect, non-intervention, and economic cooperation. This approach aimed to foster better relations and build a more cooperative regional environment during a period of global economic and political instability.

158. (D) It resulted in a republic immediately upon independence in 1822.
Brazil's independence in 1822 was unique because the country remained a monarchy under the rule of Dom Pedro I and later his son, rather than becoming a republic immediately. The Brazilian Empire lasted until 1889, when a military coup finally established a republican government. This relatively peaceful transition from colony to independent monarchy stood in contrast to the violent republican revolutions in Spanish America.

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159. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is a major source of long-term financing for economic, social, and institutional development in Latin America and the Caribbean. While it has member countries from around the world, including Europe, it is primarily managed and funded by nations within the Americas. The IDB plays a critical role in supporting infrastructure projects and poverty reduction efforts across the region.

160. (B) Transnational drug cartels
Transnational drug cartels pose a severe threat to state sovereignty by heavily arming themselves and exerting control over territory, often challenging the state's authority. These organizations use their vast financial resources to corrupt officials and create parallel power structures. The presence of such well-armed non-state actors undermines the rule of law and creates significant security challenges for governments throughout the Americas.

161. (B) Deeply entrenched social stratifications based on race and class.
Nation-building in post-colonial Latin America was deeply complicated by entrenched social stratifications based on race and class, a legacy of the colonial casta system. These deep divisions made it difficult to forge a unified national identity that included all segments of society. Overcoming this internal fragmentation remains a central challenge for many states as they seek to build inclusive and stable democratic societies.

162. (A) Globalization perpetuates unequal relationships between core and periphery.
From the perspective of Dependency Theory, globalization is seen as perpetuating and even intensifying the unequal relationship between the wealthy "core" nations and the underdeveloped "periphery." It argues that global trade and financial systems are structured to favor the core, leading to the continued extraction of wealth from poorer nations. This view highlights the

to stable nation-states was a long and difficult process.

179. (A) I, IV, III, II
The process of democratization in the late twentieth century saw the end of military rule in Brazil in 1985, followed by a similar transition in Chile by 1990. These events were part of a broader global shift that included the fall of the Berlin Wall and the election of Nelson Mandela in South Africa. These milestones represent a significant period of institutional change and the expansion of democratic governance.

180. (D) Export Concentration / Monoculture
Export concentration, or monoculture, refers to the economic vulnerability that occurs when a state's economy is dependent on only one or two primary commodities for the majority of its export revenue. This reliance makes the country's economic stability highly susceptible to fluctuations in global market prices. Many nations in the Americas have historically struggled to diversify their economies and move beyond this commodity-led growth model.

181. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
The 1994 "Tequila Crisis" was a severe economic crisis in Mexico caused by the sudden devaluation of the peso, which led to a massive flight of capital. Contrary to being localized, the crisis had significant spillover effects on other Latin American economies, a phenomenon known as the "tequila effect." This event highlighted the interconnectedness of regional financial markets and the potential for domestic crises to trigger broader regional instability.

182. (B) Transnational terrorist financing networks and illicit drug flows.
Transnational terrorist financing networks and illicit drug flows increasingly utilize the Americas as a transit route, exacerbating regional insecurity. These networks take advantage of weak state presence in certain areas to move funds and illegal substances across borders. This activity not only funds global threats but also strengthens local criminal organizations, posing a multifaceted challenge to both state and human security throughout the Western Hemisphere.

183. (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Left-leaning Pink Tide governments in the 2000s emphasized regional integration independent of the United States because they viewed US-led initiatives like the FTAA as tools of neo-imperialism. By creating new organizations like UNASUR and CELAC, these leaders sought to build collective bargaining power and foster a more autonomous regional identity. This movement reflected a strategic desire to reduce dependency on North American economic and political structures.

184. (A) Conflict between a state and non-state actors using unconventional tactics.
Asymmetrical warfare refers to a conflict between a state military and non-state actors, such as guerrillas or cartels, who use unconventional tactics to compensate for their lack of traditional military strength. These tactics often include guerrilla warfare, terrorism, and the use of the civilian population for cover. In the Americas, asymmetrical warfare poses a major challenge to internal security and requires specialized counter-insurgency and law enforcement strategies.

185. (C) "Race to the bottom" where countries lowered standards to attract investment.
Globalization has sometimes led to a "race to the bottom," where countries lower labor and environmental standards to attract foreign investment. This process can reduce the bargaining power of labor unions and lead to a decline in wages and working conditions. While globalization has created new job opportunities, the pressure to remain competitive in a global market has often come at the expense of comprehensive labor protections.

186. (A) Operation Just Cause (Panama, 1989)
Operation Just Cause was a 1989 United States military invasion of Panama designed to remove its leader, Manuel Noriega, who had been indicted on drug trafficking charges. The intervention aimed to protect American citizens, defend the Panama Canal, and restore democracy. It remains a significant example of direct US military action in Latin America to address what was framed as a major threat to both national and regional security.

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of industrialization happened later and more unevenly compared to the United States or Western Europe.

171. (D) I, II, and III only
Development cooperation in Latin America is facilitated by institutions like the CAF and ECLAC, which provide financing and promote sustainable economic growth. However, these efforts are often hindered by political polarization between different national governments. Despite the presence of international institutions like the IMF, regional development banks continue to play a vital and distinct role in supporting local infrastructure and social projects.

172. (B) Global popularity of Latin American culture and US cultural exports.
Soft power in the Americas is most effectively demonstrated through the global popularity of Latin American culture, such as its music and literature, as well as the widespread influence of American cultural exports. This form of influence relies on attraction rather than military or economic coercion. Cultural exchange fosters mutual understanding and can serve as a powerful tool for diplomacy and regional integration beyond formal state actions.

173. (C) Rampant deforestation driven by agribusiness and illegal mining.
Rampant deforestation, driven by large-scale agribusiness and illegal mining, poses a severe threat to human security and environmental stability in the Amazon basin. The loss of rainforest impacts indigenous communities, disrupts local water cycles, and contributes to global climate change. Addressing this challenge requires a coordinated regional and international effort to balance economic development with the urgent need for forest conservation.

174. (D) US economic dominance through market access without formal annexation.
The concept of the "Imperialism of Free Trade" suggests that a powerful nation like the United States can achieve economic dominance over other countries through market access and trade agreements without the need for formal annexation. By establishing favorable trade terms, the dominant power can secure resources and influence the economic policies of weaker states. This form of influence is a key theme in the history of inter-American relations.

175. (A) I, II, III, and V only
Extra-regional actors like the European Union and China play major economic roles in Latin America through investment and trade in raw materials. Countries like Iran and Russia use diplomatic and military-strategic ties to build influence and bypass international pressures. While Japan does have significant trade relations in the region, the primary extra-regional influence comes from these other major global powers through diverse economic and political channels.

176. (B) To update and replace NAFTA, modifying rules of origin and labor provisions
The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) was created to update and replace the aging NAFTA framework. It introduced new provisions regarding labor standards, environmental protections, and rules of origin, particularly for the automotive industry. The agreement aimed to modernize trade relations in North America and address criticisms that the original NAFTA had become outdated in the face of current economic and digital realities.

177. (B) Costa Rica
Costa Rica is unique among Latin American nations for having completely abolished its military in 1948 following a brief civil war. This decision allowed the country to redirect its national budget toward education, healthcare, and environmental conservation. Costa Rica's lack of a standing army has contributed to its long-term political stability and its reputation as a peaceful and democratic leader in a historically volatile region.

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178. (A) Independence resulted in immediate and stable democratic governance everywhere.
Independence in the Americas did not result in immediate and stable democratic governance everywhere; many newly independent states experienced long periods of political instability, civil war, and authoritarian rule. While the American colonies established a relatively stable republic, much of Latin America struggled to build strong institutions and peaceful democratic processes. The transition from colonial rule

146. (A) Foreign-owned plant in Mexico importing materials and exporting products.
A maquiladora is a foreign-owned factory in Mexico, typically located near the US border, that imports raw materials duty-free to assemble or manufacture products for export. This system was significantly expanded under NAFTA, creating millions of jobs and integrating the Mexican and American manufacturing sectors. Maquiladoras are a key example of the transnational supply chains that define modern global trade in the Americas.

147. (C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Different nations in the Americas face unique internal security challenges. Colombia has dealt with a decades-long guerrilla insurgency, while Mexico struggles with intense cartel violence and territorial control. Haiti has experienced state collapse and extreme gang violence, and Venezuela has faced a severe political and economic crisis characterized by hyperinflation. These threats illustrate the diverse nature of instability within the Western Hemisphere.

148. (D) Andean Community (CAN) - Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay
The Andean Community (CAN) is a trade bloc consisting of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, and does not include Argentina, Brazil, or Uruguay, which are members of MERCOSUR. Other agreements like the USMCA and the Pacific Alliance correctly identify their member nations. Understanding these regional groupings is essential for analyzing the different paths to economic integration and cooperation in South and Central America.

149. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
The Treaty of Tlatelolco, signed in 1967, established Latin America and the Caribbean as the world's first densely populated nuclear-weapon-free zone. This landmark agreement aimed to prevent nuclear proliferation and reduce the risk of nuclear conflict in the region. While Cuba eventually signed and ratified the treaty, it was not the first to do so, as its participation was delayed by Cold War tensions.

150. (B) People-centered approach focusing on protection from hunger and disease.
Human security is a people-centered approach to safety that focuses on protecting individuals from chronic threats such as hunger, disease, and repression. It shifts the focus from the defense of state borders to the protection of human lives and well-being. This framework addresses the root causes of insecurity and emphasizes the importance of sustainable development and the protection of basic human rights.

151. (D) I, II, and IV only
Significant regional disputes include Bolivia's loss of maritime access during the War of the Pacific and the ongoing claims by both the UK and Argentina over the Falkland Islands. Venezuela also maintains a long-standing claim to the Essequibo region of Guyana. While the US and Canada have minor border issues, they do not have a major, ongoing territorial conflict comparable to these.

152. (A) The "civilizing mission" and spread of Christianity
European powers often justified colonialism in the Americas through the "civilizing mission," which involved the spread of Christianity and European culture to indigenous populations. This ideology framed colonial rule as a moral duty to bring order and progress to the New World. In practice, this mission often served as a cover for the exploitation of resources and the subjugation of native peoples.

153. (C) Macroeconomic stabilization but increased social inequality and vulnerability.
An analysis of the Washington Consensus in Latin America shows that while it often achieved macroeconomic stabilization, it frequently led to increased social inequality and vulnerability. The focus on privatization and deregulation often reduced the state's ability to provide social services, disproportionately affecting the poor. These results have led to significant criticism of the model and a search for more inclusive economic strategies.

154. (A) Soviet Union
During the Cold War, the Soviet Union used Cuba as a strategic proxy to project influence in the Western Hemisphere and monitor the

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187. (D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Colonial society in the Americas used specific terms to define racial and social categories. A Peninsular was a Spanish-born Spaniard, while a Creole was a person of European descent born in the New World. Mestizos were of mixed European and indigenous ancestry, and Mulattoes were of mixed European and African descent. These categories formed the basis of a rigid hierarchy that shaped social relations for centuries.

188. (B) European Union expanding its territorial empire in South America.
The European Union's engagement in the Americas focuses on trade, investment, and cooperation on environmental and human rights issues, and it does not seek to expand a territorial empire in South America. Other extra-regional powers like China, Russia, and Iran engage through infrastructure projects, military alliances, and diplomatic ties respectively. Understanding these modern roles is essential for analyzing contemporary geopolitical competition within the Western Hemisphere.

189. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
Democratic Peace Theory suggests that democratic nations are less likely to go to war with one another. In South America, the prevalence of democratic governments since the 1990s has correlated with a notable lack of major inter-state wars in the region. While border tensions and diplomatic disputes persist, the shared commitment to democratic processes and international institutions has provided a framework for maintaining regional peace and cooperation.

190. (D) State-led industrialization
The Washington Consensus promoted free-market reforms such as trade liberalization, privatization, and tax reform to reduce the state's role in the economy. State-led industrialization, which involves heavy government intervention and subsidies to foster domestic manufacturing, is the opposite of this approach. The consensus represented a move away from the protectionist and state-centered economic models that had previously been common across many Latin American nations.

191. (A) I, II, and IV only
Human security in Latin America is undermined by deep economic inequality and strained by migration crises, such as the massive exodus from Venezuela. The COVID-19 pandemic further exposed the fragility of the region's healthcare and social safety nets. While military strength is a component of traditional national security, human security is defined by the broader well-being, safety, and economic stability of the individual citizen.

192. (B) Sphere of Influence
A sphere of influence is a geopolitical concept where a powerful state exercises dominant influence over a group of neighboring, often dependent, states. In the Americas, this concept has historically been applied to describe the United States' relationship with Latin America under policies like the Monroe Doctrine. Maintaining a stable and friendly sphere of influence is a strategy used by major powers to secure their borders and project regional authority.

193. (B) Proposed a military alliance between Germany and Mexico against the US.
The Zimmermann Telegram was a secret communication from Germany to Mexico during World War I that proposed a military alliance against the United States. In exchange for Mexico's support, Germany promised to help it reclaim territories lost during the Mexican-American War. The revelation of this telegram was a major catalyst for the United States' entry into the war and highlighted the potential for extra-regional threats.

194. (A) Using resource revenues to fund social welfare programs.
Neo-extractivism refers to an economic model where a state continues to rely heavily on the export of natural resources but uses the resulting revenues to fund social welfare programs and reduce poverty. This approach was common among several left-leaning governments in Latin America during the early twenty-first century. While it successfully reduced inequality in the short term, it also maintained economic dependency on volatile global commodity markets.

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211. (C) Cultural Hegemony
Cultural hegemony is a framework suggesting that a dominant power maintains its influence through institutions, culture, and ideology, making its leadership seem natural and beneficial. In the Americas, United States hegemony is often seen as being reinforced by the widespread reach of its media, cultural values, and the promotion of its economic and political models. This form of influence can be more enduring and pervasive than military force alone.

212. (D) Process by which a democracy matures, making reversion to authoritarianism unlikely.
Democratic consolidation is the process by which a democracy matures and becomes deeply entrenched within a society, making a return to authoritarianism highly unlikely. This involves the widespread acceptance of democratic norms, the strengthening of independent institutions, and the consistent peaceful transfer of power. A consolidated democracy is one where the political rules are recognized as the "only game in town" by all major actors.

213. (C) Full diplomatic relations have never been restored at any point in the 21st century.
While full diplomatic relations between the US and Cuba have been frequently contested, they were formally restored in 2015 during the Obama administration, with the reopening of embassies in both capitals. Although some policies were later reversed, the statement that relations have never been restored in the twenty-first century is incorrect. The relationship remains complex, shaped by historical grievances and ongoing debates over human rights and democracy.

214. (B) Long-term, comprehensive bilateral agreement for multifaceted cooperation.
A strategic partnership in inter-American relations is a long-term, comprehensive bilateral agreement that facilitates cooperation across multiple sectors, including trade, security, and technology. These partnerships are intended to address common goals and formalize a high level of diplomatic engagement between two nations. They represent a commitment to deep and sustained cooperation that goes beyond simple trade deals or temporary political alignments.

215. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
The establishment of extractive institutions during the colonial era, designed to benefit a small elite, hindered long-term economic development by concentrating wealth and power. In contrast, inclusive institutions promote broad-based economic participation and secure property rights, which are essential for sustainable growth. Many nations in the Americas continue to struggle with the legacy of extractive systems as they attempt to build more inclusive and equitable societies.

216. (A) Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing by distant-water fleets.
Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing by foreign distant-water fleets poses a significant threat to the marine resources and economic security of South American nations. These fleets often operate in or near Exclusive Economic Zones, depleting fish stocks and harming local ecosystems. This external threat challenges the state's ability to manage its natural resources and impacts the livelihoods of local fishing communities along the continent's extensive coastlines.

217. (C) Promote land reform and democratic governance.
A core objective of the Alliance for Progress was to promote land reform and democratic governance as a way to address the social grievances that could lead to communist insurgencies. By providing aid for economic development and social progress, the United States hoped to build stable and prosperous allies in Latin America. The initiative reflected the belief that improving living standards was essential for long-term regional security during the Cold War.

218. (A) The Third Wave of Democratization
The "Third Wave of Democratization" refers to the significant global trend starting in the 1970s that saw numerous countries, particularly in Latin America, transition from authoritarian or military rule to democratic governance. This period was characterized by the collapse of military juntas and the restoration of elections and constitutional rule across the region. This wave fundamentally reshaped the political landscape and institutional structures of the Western Hemisphere.

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203. (D) The Pampas - The primary border between the US and Mexico.
The Pampas are vast fertile plains located primarily in Argentina, Uruguay, and southern Brazil, and have no association with the border between the United States and Mexico. Other locations, such as the Panama Canal, the Strait of Magellan, and the Gulf of Mexico, are correctly identified by their significant geostrategic roles. Understanding these geographical features is essential for analyzing regional economic activities and international maritime transit.

204. (B) Relations conducted by sub-national entities like US and Mexican states.
Paradiplomacy refers to the international relations and diplomatic activities conducted by sub-national entities, such as states or provinces, rather than the central government. In the Americas, this is common among US and Mexican states that cooperate on issues like trade, water management, and border security. Paradiplomacy allows for more localized and efficient solutions to transborder challenges that directly impact sub-national regions and their populations.

205. (C) Managing duality between English and French-speaking identities.
Nationalism in Canada is fundamentally shaped by the need to manage the duality between its English and French-speaking populations. This has led to the adoption of official bilingualism and a focus on multiculturalism as core national values. Balancing the aspirations of Quebec with the interests of the rest of the country remains a central and ongoing theme in Canadian political life and state-building efforts.

206. (D) Narco-philanthropy and cartel social programs
Narco-philanthropy occurs when drug cartels provide social services, such as funding schools or clinics, to gain the support and loyalty of local communities. This practice undermines the state's authority by creating alternative centers of social and economic power. It complicates state-building efforts, as marginalized populations may come to rely on illicit organizations rather than the government for their basic needs and human security.

207. (A) Cold War caused US backing of dictatorships to suppress leftist movements.
A clear cause-effect relationship in American history is how the Cold War led the United States to back authoritarian dictatorships to suppress perceived leftist and communist movements. Driven by the policy of containment, the US often prioritized anti-communist stability over democratic principles. This strategy had a profound and long-lasting impact on the political development and human rights records of many Latin American nations during the twentieth century.

208. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.
Pink Tide governments generally moved away from strict neoliberal policies and instead sought to increase state intervention in the economy to reduce poverty and inequality. They implemented various social programs and used resource revenues for public investment. While their specific economic strategies varied, they were unified by a commitment to social justice and a desire for greater economic sovereignty for their respective nations.

209. (B) Narrow, strategic geographic feature for significant maritime traffic.
A "Choke Point" in geopolitical terms is a narrow and strategically important geographic passage through which a large amount of maritime trade and naval traffic passes. Examples include canals, straits, and narrow sea routes. Control over these points is significant because blocking or disrupting them can affect global trade, energy supplies, and military movements between different regions of the world.

210. (A) Complete eradication of domestic poverty
Globalization has integrated the Americas into global supply chains and increased the interconnectedness of civil society, but it has also made regional economies more vulnerable to global financial crises. However, it has not resulted in the complete eradication of domestic poverty. While some have benefited from increased trade, many others remain marginalized, and income inequality remains a persistent and deep-seated challenge throughout the entire Western Hemisphere.

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195. (C) I, II, III, and V only
Regional integration in Latin America has seen the rise and fall of various organizations like UNASUR and PROSUR due to political polarization. CELAC provides a forum for all nations in the Americas except the US and Canada, while the OAS remains the primary hemispheric body that includes the United States. Despite these efforts, regional integration has historically lacked the institutional depth found in the European Union.

196. (D) Borderlands phenomenon
The borderlands phenomenon describes the unique and complex network of economic relationships, cultural exchanges, and social ties that exist across the US-Mexico border. This zone is characterized by its high degree of interdependence, where the two nations are linked through trade, migration, and shared environmental challenges. The borderlands represent a space where national identities often overlap, creating a distinct regional culture and a vital economic corridor.

197. (C) FTAA (Free Trade Area of the Americas)
The Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) was a proposed agreement to create a single free trade zone encompassing all nations in the Western Hemisphere, except Cuba. However, the initiative ultimately failed in the mid-2000s due to strong opposition from several Latin American governments and civil society groups. Critics argued that the agreement would favor the US economy and harm domestic industries in smaller, developing nations.

198. (B) Haiti faced challenges partly due to a massive indemnity imposed by France.
Haiti's early state-building efforts were severely hampered by a massive indemnity imposed by France in exchange for official recognition of its independence. This debt, which took over a century to pay off, drained the country of essential resources and hindered its economic development. Combined with internal political instability and foreign interventions, this historical burden has had a lasting impact on Haiti's institutional strength and overall security.

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199. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.
The Monroe Doctrine was not a bilateral treaty but rather a unilateral declaration by the United States. Announced in 1823 by President James Monroe, it stated that any intervention by European powers in the politics of the Americas would be viewed as a potentially hostile act. This policy reflected the young nation's desire to assert its influence and protect the sovereignty of newly independent Latin American states.

200. (A) Universal literacy rates
Structural challenges to democratization in the Americas include deep socio-economic inequality, weak rule of law, and persistent networks of clientelism and patronage. These factors undermine institutional stability and public trust in democratic processes. Universal literacy, conversely, is a positive social indicator that supports a more informed and engaged electorate, which generally strengthens rather than hinders the development and consolidation of a healthy democratic society.

201. (C) The Spanish-American War (1898)
The Spanish-American War in 1898 was a turning point that established the United States as a dominant regional and global power. By defeating Spain, the US gained control over Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines, and asserted significant influence over newly independent Cuba. This conflict marked the end of the Spanish colonial empire in the Americas and the beginning of a more interventionist American foreign policy in the Caribbean.

202. (A) A country colonizes parts of its own territory, exploiting marginalized groups.
Internal colonialism occurs when a dominant group or region within a sovereign state exploits and marginalizes another group or territory, often for its resources. This relationship mirrors the dynamics of traditional colonialism, where the periphery is kept underdeveloped to benefit the core. In the Americas, this concept is often used to describe the historical and ongoing treatment of indigenous communities and remote rural regions by central governments.

219. (D) Darien Gap Migration Crisis - Border of Colombia and Panama.
The migration crisis in the Darien Gap, located on the border between Colombia and Panama, is a major contemporary geopolitical challenge. This dense and dangerous jungle region has become a primary transit route for thousands of migrants from around the world attempting to reach North America. The crisis involves significant humanitarian, security, and environmental concerns that require coordinated international and regional responses to manage effectively.

220. (B) Imposition of unilateral tariffs
Mechanisms of regional development cooperation include IDB loans, technical assistance programs, and agreements for technology transfer, all of which are designed to support economic and social progress. The imposition of unilateral tariffs is a protectionist trade measure that restricts commerce and is the opposite of a cooperative development initiative. Tariffs are often a source of trade friction rather than a tool for fostering regional integration or development.

221. (C) Theodore Roosevelt
Big Stick Diplomacy is the ideology associated with President Theodore Roosevelt's foreign policy, characterized by the phrase "speak softly and carry a big stick." This approach emphasized the use of peaceful negotiation backed by the clear threat of military force to achieve national objectives. In the Americas, this policy led to several US interventions and the assertion of American authority over regional affairs in the early twentieth century.

222. (D) Territorial dispute between Argentina and Chile over Beagle Channel islands.
The Beagle Conflict was a territorial dispute between Argentina and Chile over the sovereignty of islands in the Beagle Channel at the southern tip of South America. The two nations nearly went to war in 1978 before accepting mediation by the Pope. The resulting treaty peacefully resolved the dispute, illustrating the role of international mediation in preventing armed conflict and settling complex border issues in the Americas.

223. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
The "War on Drugs" has led to the significant militarization of law enforcement in several Latin American countries as states use military force to combat powerful drug cartels. While this approach has resulted in the capture of many cartel leaders, it has not eradicated drug trafficking, which remains a massive and resilient illicit industry. Critics argue that militarization has often led to increased violence and human rights abuses.

224. (B) ALBA
The Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA) is a regional integration initiative that emphasizes a "Bolivarian" ideology, named after independence leader Simon Bolivar. It promotes social, political, and economic integration based on socialist and anti-imperialist principles. ALBA was founded as an alternative to US-led free trade agreements and seeks to foster cooperation and solidarity among left-leaning governments in Latin America and the Caribbean.

225. (B) High levels of primary export dependency
Latin American economies often suffer when global commodity prices drop because of their high levels of dependency on primary exports such as oil, minerals, and agricultural products. This reliance makes their national budgets and overall economic stability exceptionally vulnerable to external market fluctuations. Diversifying the economy remains a critical but difficult goal for many regional states seeking to achieve more stable and resilient long-term growth.

226. (A) A state whose system is so weak that the government is no longer in control.
A failed state is one where the government has lost the ability to exercise effective control over its territory, maintain a monopoly on the legitimate use of force, and provide essential public services to its citizens. In such cases, non-state actors like cartels or insurgent groups often fill the power vacuum. State failure poses a severe threat to both national and regional security, leading to instability and humanitarian crises.

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259. (C) Ideological schisms about political structures
The path from colonialism to independence was characterized by non-linear progress due to significant ideological schisms. These internal disagreements focused on the future political structures and governance models of the newly liberated zones. Such ideological divisions meant that the transition was often marked by conflict and debate, as different factions within the nationalist movement struggled to define the new national identity.

260. (A) A fragile framework of shared national identity
The success of independence movements in this historical case study relied on synthesizing anti-colonial sentiments with a shared national identity. Although this framework was often fragile, it provided a necessary foundation for uniting diverse social strata. By creating a collective narrative, leaders could bridge existing social gaps and maintain the momentum required to achieve liberation and establish new political entities.

261. (D) Formal institutions and bureaucratic hierarchies
State building is defined primarily as the process of establishing formal institutions and bureaucratic hierarchies. The objective is to create coercive apparatuses and administrative structures that ensure territorial control and governance. This focus on the infrastructural and legal frameworks of a state allows for the enforcement of laws and the collection of taxes, providing the backbone of a functional entity.

262. (B) Strong borders and taxes but no internal legitimacy
When the consolidation of administrative power through state building occurs faster than the development of a national identity, a legitimacy gap arises. The resulting political entity may possess strong borders and efficient taxation systems, yet it lacks internal legitimacy among its populace. This imbalance occurs because the emotional and civic loyalty of the people has not been cultivated or synchronized.

263. (C) The rapid consolidation of administrative power
The inclusive ethos required for effective nation building is frequently undermined by the rapid consolidation of administrative power during the state-building process. Such rapid centralisation often alienates minority groups and demographic fragments, preventing the development of a shared cultural identity. This tension highlights the difficulty in balancing the need for strong institutions with the requirement for broad-based psychological cohesion.

264. (D) Institutional weakness and inability to enforce laws
Prioritizing the cultivation of a shared cultural identity and civic loyalty without establishing adequate administrative structures leads to profound institutional weakness. In such cases, the government remains incapable of enforcing laws or delivering essential public services. Although the population may feel a sense of national unity, the lack of bureaucratic hierarchies and coercive apparatuses prevents the state from functioning effectively.

265. (A) A synchronized approach to capacity and solidarity
The enduring stability of emergent political entities in the Americas depends on a synchronized approach to both nation building and state building. This necessitates balancing administrative capacity with deep-rooted civic solidarity. By aligning structural frameworks with a shared national narrative, administrators can ensure that the state possesses both the institutional strength to govern and the internal legitimacy to maintain social cohesion.

266. (B) Elites protecting historical privileges
In post-authoritarian scenarios, transitional governments often face systemic resistance from traditional elites. These powerful groups view egalitarian reforms and democratic norms as direct threats to their historical privileges and socio-political monopolies. This opposition creates a significant hurdle for democratization, as these elites use their entrenched influence to subvert the transition and maintain their control over the state's institutional frameworks.

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235. (D) Venezuela
Venezuela experienced a severe political and economic collapse in the late 2010s, characterized by hyperinflation, widespread shortages, and institutional decay. This crisis resulted in a massive humanitarian emergency and the exodus of millions of refugees to neighboring countries. The situation in Venezuela has become a major regional security concern, highlighting the impact of state failure and economic mismanagement on both human security and regional stability.

236. (B) Hegemon - A state that exercises dominant influence over others in a system.
A hegemon is a state that exercises dominant influence and leadership over other states within an international or regional system. In the context of the Western Hemisphere, the United States has long been described as the regional hegemon due to its superior economic, military, and political power. Hegemonic influence can be maintained through a combination of hard power, such as military force, and soft power, such as cultural and institutional leadership.

237. (C) Ill-defined colonial borders inherited by newly independent states.
Many regional conflicts in the Americas have been caused by ill-defined colonial borders inherited by newly independent states. These vague boundaries often led to overlapping territorial claims and disputes over resource-rich areas. While many issues have been resolved through treaties or mediation, some remain a source of diplomatic tension or potential conflict, illustrating how historical administrative decisions continue to influence modern international relations and national security.

238. (D) Shifting focus from the state to the individual and human security.
Critical Security Studies shifts the focus of analysis from the state's military security to the security of the individual, emphasizing a human-centered approach. This perspective examines how issues like poverty, environmental degradation, and systemic inequality threaten human well-being and safety. In the Americas, this framework is used to understand how non-traditional threats impact marginalized populations and to advocate for policies that address the root causes of insecurity and instability.

239. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
The "Dirty War" in Argentina was a period of state terrorism where the military junta targeted political dissidents, resulting in thousands of "disappeared" persons. In response, the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo began a courageous and long-standing movement to demand answers about their missing children. Their persistence became a powerful symbol of human rights resistance and played a significant role in the eventual return to democratic rule in Argentina.

240. (B) Complete loss of national cultural identity.
Recognized benefits of regional trade agreements include increased market size, economies of scale, and the attraction of foreign direct investment. They also foster enhanced political cooperation between member states. While some fear that globalization might lead to cultural homogenization, the complete loss of national cultural identity is not a benefit of these agreements; rather, cultural preservation often remains an important consideration in regional integration efforts.

241. (B) Central America
The term "Banana Republic" was originally coined to describe countries in Central America whose economies were dominated by the export of bananas and the influence of foreign companies like the United Fruit Company. These nations were often characterized by political instability and significant social inequality. The term highlights the historical legacy of foreign corporate control and its impact on the sovereignty and development of smaller states in the region.

242. (A) Response to geopolitical tensions and vulnerabilities exposed during disruptions.
Nearshoring to the Americas is a strategic response by companies to geopolitical tensions and the vulnerabilities of long-distance supply chains exposed during global disruptions. By moving production closer to the final market in North America, firms aim to reduce logistics costs and increase resilience. This trend has significant economic implications for countries like Mexico, which can benefit from increased investment and integration into regional manufacturing networks.

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measures. Recognizing that purely coercive actions often fail to resolve root grievances, this approach focuses on protecting individuals from violence and deprivation. By prioritizing human security, states can better address societal instability and reduce the vulnerabilities that domestic insurgencies and criminal organizations frequently exploit.

276. (A) Via asymmetric coercion and cyber intrusions
In contemporary geopolitical scenarios, external threats often manifest through asymmetric coercion and cyber intrusions rather than traditional military invasions. These modern vectors target a nation's digital and economic infrastructure to undermine its stability. Such methods allow foreign entities to exert influence and pressure without the need for physical territorial conquest, creating complex challenges for both state and human security frameworks.

277. (D) By undermining sovereignty and infrastructure
External threats compromise state security by undermining sovereign decision-making and infiltrating critical national infrastructure. These vectors, including trans-border resource exploitation and cyber disruptions, weaken a government's ability to govern independently. By targeting the functional foundations of the state, external actors can manipulate national policies and disrupt essential services, posing a severe challenge to the traditional concept of territorial sovereignty.

278. (B) Disrupted services and economic volatility
When foreign entities manipulate economic stability or orchestrate cyber disruptions, the immediate consequences are felt directly by the civilian population. These impacts include disrupted public services, increased economic volatility, and the compromise of personal data. Such actions demonstrate how external threats to the state have cascading effects that drastically reduce human security, affecting the daily lives and well-being of individuals.

279. (C) Because external threats permeate digital and economic borders
State security doctrines that rely exclusively on physical border fortification are considered inadequate against modern external threats. This is because contemporary threats, such as asymmetric coercion and cyber attacks, easily permeate digital and economic borders. Since these vectors bypass traditional defenses, a more comprehensive approach is needed to protect both the state's sovereign integrity and the safety of its citizens.

280. (D) One that aligns state and human security
Effectively countering modern external threats requires a comprehensive defense posture that aligns state security mechanisms with human security objectives. This integrated approach ensures that diplomatic and strategic responses protect the civilian populace from external coercive pressures. By focusing on both sovereign integrity and human well-being, states can build resilience against the diverse and asymmetric threats characteristic of the current global environment.

281. (A) The objective of maintaining hemispheric stability
The primary driver of United States involvement in localized regional conflicts is the objective of maintaining hemispheric stability. Because regional disputes are rarely contained locally, the US often intervenes to prevent escalation that could threaten the geopolitical equilibrium of the continent. This proactive stance is rooted in the belief that stability is essential for security.

282. (B) Between neutral arbitration and economic leverage
In its attempts to resolve regional disputes, the role of the United States frequently oscillates between acting as a neutral diplomatic arbiter and deploying asymmetric economic leverage. This flexibility allows the US to use various tools of influence to compel conflict resolution. Whether through mediation or coercion, the goal remains to achieve a settlement.

283. (B) When involvement is unilateral or misaligned
United States involvement can inadvertently escalate regional conflicts if its actions are perceived as unilateral or misaligned with multilateral consensus. Such perceptions may lead local actors to resist US intervention or view it as an attempt to alter the balance of power unfairly. Consequently, the success of US mediation often

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for both domestic security and a collective voice in global affairs as nations navigate their shared history and geographic proximity.

251. (B) The level of maritime access
In the geopolitical analysis of the American landmass, the degree of maritime access is identified as the fundamental determinant for a nation's vulnerability and its ability to project power. This reliance on oceanic boundaries creates a strategic landscape where naval capabilities often supersede terrestrial considerations. Consequently, regional actors must focus on these maritime realities to ensure security.

252. (A) Prioritizing coastal defense and isolation
The specific geopolitical configuration of the Americas necessitates a military posture that emphasizes coastal defense and isolation from trans-oceanic threats. Strategic planning involves placing assets to secure naval approaches rather than focusing solely on terrestrial dominance. This focus ensures that the regional security architecture effectively mitigates risks from external powers while maintaining hemispheric integrity through geographic positioning.

253. (C) Control of maritime points and hinterlands
Geopolitical analysts observe that strategic planning in the Americas centers on controlling maritime choke points and resource-rich hinterlands. This focus arises because these areas are vital for regulating trade and ensuring resource security across the hemisphere. By prioritizing these locations, regional powers can effectively manage their strategic interests and protect their vast territorial expanses from external or internal disruption.

254. (D) Maritime alliances and border demarcations
To maintain sovereign integrity within the unique geostrategic setting of the Americas, regional actors are compelled to prioritize maritime alliances and formal border demarcations. These efforts are essential for securing the hemisphere against trans-oceanic threats while managing terrestrial boundaries. Establishing such strategic arrangements allows states to navigate geographic constraints effectively while ensuring long-term stability and defense against external pressures.

255. (C) Immediate pressures from other global theatres
The fundamental geopolitical and geostrategic setting of the Americas serves as a primary determinant for regional defense postures. This configuration effectively isolates the continent from the immediate continental pressures and direct threats found in other global theaters. By capitalizing on its geographic distance and oceanic boundaries, the region maintains a distinct security environment that shapes its diplomatic and military alignments.

256. (B) Reaction against colonial economic monopolization
In the transition from colonialism to nationalism, the primary catalyst for independence movements was the reaction against economic monopolization. This grievance emerged as economic extraction fostered localized resentment among the population. Rather than beginning as a purely ideological awakening, the movement gained momentum as different social strata united against the restrictive and exploitative economic policies enforced by colonial authorities.

257. (D) Previous tribal or provincial identities
As grievances against colonial rule coalesced, a cohesive regional nationalism began to emerge. This new collective identity superseded earlier tribal or provincial identities that had previously divided the population. By creating a unified sense of national purpose, nationalist leaders were able to mobilize diverse groups toward the common goal of independence, moving beyond localized affiliations to a broader sense of statehood.

258. (A) Formal colonial administrative frameworks
Colonial rule unintentionally established rigid administrative frameworks that were later repurposed by early nationalist leaders. These existing structures provided the necessary organizational basis to mobilize populations and coordinate resistance against the colonial power. By utilizing the very systems designed for subjugation, nationalist movements were able to transition from intellectual discourse to organized armed struggle for political and territorial independence.

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292. (A) Equitable growth for weaker economies
Development cooperation is institutionalized within regional agreements to ensure equitable growth, particularly for structurally weaker economies. By mandating resource transfers and capacity-building initiatives, the framework aims to prevent the exploitation of smaller states. This element of the triadic approach is essential for mitigating the economic disparities that can arise from unregulated regional trade, fostering a more balanced integration.

293. (D) Economic disparities and institutional friction
If regional trade is pursued without robust development cooperation, it tends to exacerbate economic disparities among member states. This imbalance often leads to institutional friction, as smaller or weaker economies struggle to compete with more powerful ones. The scenario illustrates that purely market-driven integration without supporting mechanisms for equity can undermine the long-term stability and success of the economic bloc.

294. (B) Commitment to shared projects and standards
Analysts conclude that a successful strategic partnership requires a binding commitment to shared infrastructural projects and synchronized regulatory standards. These collaborative efforts align macroeconomic policies and protect regional economies from external market volatilities. By establishing common frameworks and goals, member states can transform geographic proximity into a resilient and mutually beneficial economic alliance that supports collective growth across the continent.

295. (C) Enduring economic integration
The synergy between regional trade, development cooperation, and a formal strategic partnership is critical for successful continental integration. When these three elements function interdependently, they transform geographic proximity into enduring and mutually beneficial economic integration. This comprehensive approach allows states to build collective resilience and ensure that economic growth is both widespread and sustainable across the entire region.

296. (D) Rapid deregulation and influx of foreign capital
In the academic assessment of globalisation, its impact is primarily observed through the rapid deregulation of localized markets and a significant influx of foreign capital. While these changes accelerate industrial modernization, they also lead to the dismantling of traditional economic structures. This process forces regional economies to adapt quickly to transnational flows, creating both new opportunities for growth and significant social disruption.

297. (A) Urban wealth vs. peripheral agricultural suffering
Globalisation's economic impact is often non-uniform, leading to a sharp divide between urban and rural areas. Urban centers integrated into global supply chains typically experience rapid wealth accumulation. In contrast, peripheral agricultural zones may suffer as they are suddenly exposed to intense international market competition. This disparity highlights the need for balanced policies that address the uneven benefits of global economic connectivity.

298. (B) Media challenging narratives and identity preservation
The cultural dimension of globalisation involves transnational media networks challenging indigenous cultural narratives. This exposure to global media often triggers localized movements aimed at preserving regional and indigenous identity. These cultural shifts show that globalisation is not just an economic phenomenon but also a transformative force that impacts the social fabric and self-perception of populations throughout the Americas.

299. (B) Its capacity to manage the impact of globalisation
A state's domestic stability in the face of globalisation is dictated by its capacity to manage the resulting economic and social changes. Governments must implement adaptive regulatory frameworks that can harness the velocity of global trade while mitigating its disruptive effects. Success depends on the ability of institutions to navigate transnational flows without undermining the welfare of their own populations or sectors.

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267. (B) By forcing a focus on survival over participation
Severe economic inequality functions as a primary obstacle to democratic transitions by forcing marginalized populations to prioritize immediate material survival. When individuals are consumed by the struggle for basic needs, they have little capacity for abstract political participation. This focus on survival stalls the democratic process, as the necessary civic engagement and accountability from the broader populace remain largely unachievable.

268. (A) Elections used to consolidate power hierarchies
The persistence of patronage networks within a transitioning state subverts democratic accountability and transparency. Instead of facilitating genuine representative governance, these networks transform procedural elections into mechanisms for consolidating existing power hierarchies. This outcome prevents the establishment of a truly independent political system, as the electoral process is manipulated to serve the interests of those already holding socio-political dominance.

269. (C) Establishing a judiciary and free press
Challenges to democratization are not confined to the electoral arena but extend into broader institutional reforms. A successful democratic transition requires the establishment of an independent judiciary and a free press to ensure accountability. Without these critical components, the state remains vulnerable to the persistence of patronage networks and the subversion of the rule of law.

270. (D) Systemic reform to dismantle monopolies
Overcoming the multifaceted challenges to democratization requires comprehensive systemic reform that goes beyond the periodic holding of elections. Sustained efforts must be directed toward dismantling entrenched socio-political monopolies and addressing institutional weaknesses. This process is essential to prevent a regression into authoritarianism and to ensure that democratic norms are deeply embedded within the state's legal and social structures.

271. (C) Bypassing the military to target civilians
Domestic insurgencies and organized criminal syndicates typically operate by bypassing conventional military forces to target civilian populations and essential infrastructure. This strategy creates widespread instability and directly undermines human security. By focusing on civilians rather than military confrontation, these internal threats exploit societal vulnerabilities and create significant challenges for state institutions tasked with maintaining public order and ensuring territorial integrity.

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272. (B) Territorial integrity and regime survival
State security focuses primarily on the protection of territorial integrity and the survival of the existing regime. This traditional framework emphasizes the use of conventional military and coercive apparatuses to defend against threats to the state's sovereignty. While essential for maintaining a functional government, this focus can sometimes overlook the broader needs of the population.

273. (D) Militarized responses often diminish human security
A governance paradox arises when militarized responses intended to neutralize internal threats to state security result in collateral damage. This damage often diminishes human security by exacerbating civilian vulnerability and societal fractures. Such aggressive tactics can alienate the population and fail to address the root socio-economic grievances, ultimately undermining the very stability that the state is attempting to protect.

274. (A) Localized power vacuums are created.
When a state is unable to maintain a monopoly on the legitimate use of force, localized power vacuums are created. These voids are often filled by non-state actors, such as insurgencies or criminal syndicates, further destabilizing the region. The resulting lack of centralized authority leads to increased civilian insecurity and allows internal threats to flourish without effective intervention from official institutions.

275. (C) Human security metrics
Addressing internal threats effectively requires a security paradigm that integrates human security metrics alongside traditional state security

227. (C) Soviet Union/Russia
Historically, the Soviet Union and later Russia have utilized strategic sites in Cuba, such as the Lourdes signals intelligence facility, to monitor the United States. This presence allowed for the collection of sensitive electronic communications and provided a strategic outpost close to American territory. Such facilities illustrate how extra-regional powers have used regional allies to gain intelligence and project influence during and after the Cold War.

228. (D) It is entirely claimed and controlled by the United States.
The Arctic is not entirely claimed and controlled by the United States; rather, it is a region where several nations, including Canada, Russia, Norway, and Denmark, have significant territorial claims and interests. Canada specifically views the Northwest Passage as its internal waters, a claim that is contested by other countries. As the ice melts, the Arctic's geostrategic importance for shipping and resource extraction continues to grow.

229. (C) Provided the intellectual foundation for independence and republicanism.
The Enlightenment had a profound impact on the Americas by providing the intellectual foundation for independence and the establishment of republican governments. Ideas such as individual liberty, popular sovereignty, and the social contract challenged the traditional authority of European monarchs. These principles inspired leaders across the hemisphere to seek self-determination and to create new states based on constitutional rule and the protection of natural rights.

230. (B) The US launching a massive ground invasion of South America.
The US-led "War on Terror" influenced Latin America by shifting security funding toward counter-terrorism and increasing border and financial scrutiny. Some regional insurgent groups were also reframed as terrorists within this global context. However, the US did not launch a massive ground invasion of South America as part of this policy. Instead, the focus was on cooperation and intelligence sharing to prevent the region from being used by international terrorist networks.

231. (D) Cultural and biological blending of European and Indigenous peoples.
Mestizaje refers to the cultural and biological blending of European and indigenous peoples that has occurred throughout the Americas since the colonial era. This process has created new, hybrid identities and is a defining feature of the demographic and social landscape in many Latin American countries. While it is often celebrated as a source of national unity, the historical reality of mestizaje also involved significant power imbalances and social hierarchies.

232. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
Remittances sent home by migrants working in the United States represent a significant portion of the GDP for several Central American and Caribbean nations. These private financial flows provide essential income for many families and support local economies. However, remittances are not a form of official government foreign aid; they are personal transfers from individuals that reflect the deep economic and social links across the Western Hemisphere.

233. (C) OAS (Organization of American States)
The Organization of American States (OAS) has frequently been criticized by left-leaning governments in Latin America as being an instrument of United States foreign policy. Critics argue that the organization's headquarters in Washington, D.C., and its historical support for US-led initiatives reflect a pro-American bias. These tensions have led some nations to seek alternative regional forums that exclude the United States and Canada to better represent their specific interests.

234. (A) Authoritarianism
Authoritarianism is a form of government where power is concentrated in the hands of a single leader or a small elite group that is not constitutionally accountable to the public. In such systems, political freedoms are often restricted, and the state exercises significant control over social and economic life. Many nations in the Americas have experienced periods of authoritarian rule, often as a result of military coups or the erosion of democratic institutions.

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depends on its ability to coordinate with other regional and global stakeholders.

284. (A) They are entwined with continental equilibrium
The interventionist posture of the United States regarding regional issues indicates that its strategic interests are deeply entwined with the geopolitical equilibrium of the entire continent. The US views stability in the Americas as vital to its own security, prompting active engagement in local disputes. This connection ensures the US remains a definitive variable in hemispheric diplomacy.

285. (C) Accelerating or inadvertently prolonging disputes
The role of the United States in regional conflicts acts as a definitive variable that can either accelerate peaceful settlements or inadvertently prolong disputes. Through diplomatic coercion or altering the balance of power, US actions significantly impact the trajectory of local issues. Acknowledging this influence is crucial for understanding the complex dynamics of conflict resolution and strategic alignment within the Western Hemisphere.

286. (D) Foreign direct investment and military partnerships
Extra-regional powers fundamentally alter the local strategic balance by injecting foreign direct investment and establishing military partnerships within the region. These mechanisms provide neighboring states with new forms of patronage and resources, often complicating existing disputes. By introducing external capital and security alliances, these powers gain influence in hemispheric affairs, moving the region away from purely internal security dynamics.

287. (C) They transform into proxy arenas for global competition
When extra-regional powers become involved in localized conflicts, these disputes often transform into proxy arenas for broader global competition. The involvement of external actors shifts the focus from local grievances to global strategic positioning. This transformation makes dispute resolution more difficult, as the primary combatants may prioritize the interests of their external patrons over achieving a sustainable local peace.

288. (B) They reduce reliance on traditional mechanisms
Extra-regional powers introduce alternative economic lifelines and competing diplomatic frameworks that reduce the reliance of local states on traditional hemispheric mechanisms. When states have access to external patronage, they may be less inclined to seek resolution through regional organizations or established protocols. This shift complicates the efforts of local and hemispheric actors to manage and resolve conflicts using standard diplomatic tools.

289. (D) Their own global strategic positioning
Strategists note that extra-regional powers prioritize their own global strategic positioning over the stability of the regions where they intervene. Their involvement is often driven by the desire to counter rivals or secure resources rather than a genuine interest in local peace. This external prioritization can exacerbate local tensions and make regional issues more difficult to resolve through diplomacy.

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290. (A) Complex, globally-oriented diplomatic negotiations
The pervasive role of extra-regional powers means that resolving regional conflicts is no longer a strictly internal hemispheric affair. Instead, it requires complex, globally-oriented diplomatic negotiations to neutralize external exacerbation of local disputes. Existing security architectures must adapt to multi-polar influences, acknowledging that global strategic interests are now inextricably linked to the outcomes of localized territorial and resource disputes.

291. (C) Regional trade
Within the triadic framework of economic integration, regional trade is identified as the primary engine for capital accumulation. Multilateral agreements facilitate these economic exchanges, allowing states to leverage geographic proximity for growth. However, for this trade to be sustainable and beneficial for all members, it must be complemented by other elements of the framework, such as development cooperation and strategic partnership.

243. (C) Urbanization happened slowly and uniformly across the entire hemisphere.
Urbanization in the Americas did not happen slowly and uniformly; instead, many countries experienced rapid and often unplanned urban growth, leading to the development of massive slums in major cities. This rapid demographic shift created significant challenges for state building, including the need for expanded infrastructure and social services. Integrating these growing urban populations remains a major institutional and security concern for many regional governments today.

244. (D) Preventing the spread of Soviet influence and communist ideology.
The primary geopolitical goal of the United States' containment policy in the Americas during the Cold War was to prevent the spread of Soviet influence and communist ideology. This objective drove numerous military interventions and diplomatic efforts to ensure that regional governments remained aligned with Western interests. Containment was the guiding principle for managing hemispheric security and shaped the asymmetrical power dynamics between the US and Latin American nations.

245. (C) The resolution of the Beagle Channel dispute between Chile and Argentina.
The resolution of the Beagle Channel dispute between Chile and Argentina is a successful example of resolving a regional conflict through international mediation. After nearly going to war in 1978, both countries accepted the mediation of the Pope, which led to a final and peaceful settlement of their territorial claims. This outcome demonstrates the effectiveness of institutional and religious diplomacy in managing tensions and preventing armed conflict between neighboring sovereign states.

246. (B) Neoliberal Institutionalism
Neoliberal institutionalism argues that international organizations like the OAS can foster cooperation and reduce conflict by providing forums for dialogue and establishing common rules. This theory suggests that states benefit from working through institutions that help coordinate policies and manage regional challenges. In the Americas, this perspective highlights the role of regional bodies in defending democracy and promoting collective security beyond the simple exercise of national power.

247. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
Climate change acts as a "threat multiplier" in the Americas, exacerbating existing challenges such as food scarcity, water insecurity, and migration. Far from being the least vulnerable, Caribbean nations are among those most at risk due to rising sea levels and the increasing intensity of tropical storms. These environmental pressures directly impact human security and require significant regional and international cooperation for effective adaptation and long-term resilience.

248. (A) A single official religion
The defining elements of a state include a permanent population, a defined territory, and the capacity to enter into relations with other states. While many countries may have a dominant or official religion, it is not a prerequisite for statehood under international law. Instead, statehood is based on the ability of a government to exercise sovereign authority over its people and territory and to be recognized by the international community.

249. (C) Transnational capital and domestic economic elites.
In the context of globalization, the Washington Consensus primarily benefited transnational capital and domestic economic elites who were best positioned to take advantage of privatization and market liberalization. While these policies aimed to stabilize economies, they often marginalized traditional rural farmers and organized labor unions. The resulting concentration of wealth contributed to persistent and deep-seated social inequalities that continue to challenge state stability and human security across the Americas.

250. (A) State Building and Hemispheric Integration.
The overarching historical transition of the Americas from fragmented colonial territories to modern sovereign countries is best captured by the dual processes of state-building and hemispheric integration. This involves the construction of stable national institutions and the ongoing effort to build regional cooperative frameworks. These processes reflect the desire

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300. (A) Protecting vulnerable domestic sectors
Navigating the complexities of globalisation demands a calibrated policy approach that balances the benefits of global connectivity with the protection of vulnerable domestic sectors. Governments must ensure that the pursuit of international economic integration does not come at the expense of social stability or the survival of traditional industries. This balance is essential for maintaining a resilient and stable economy.

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